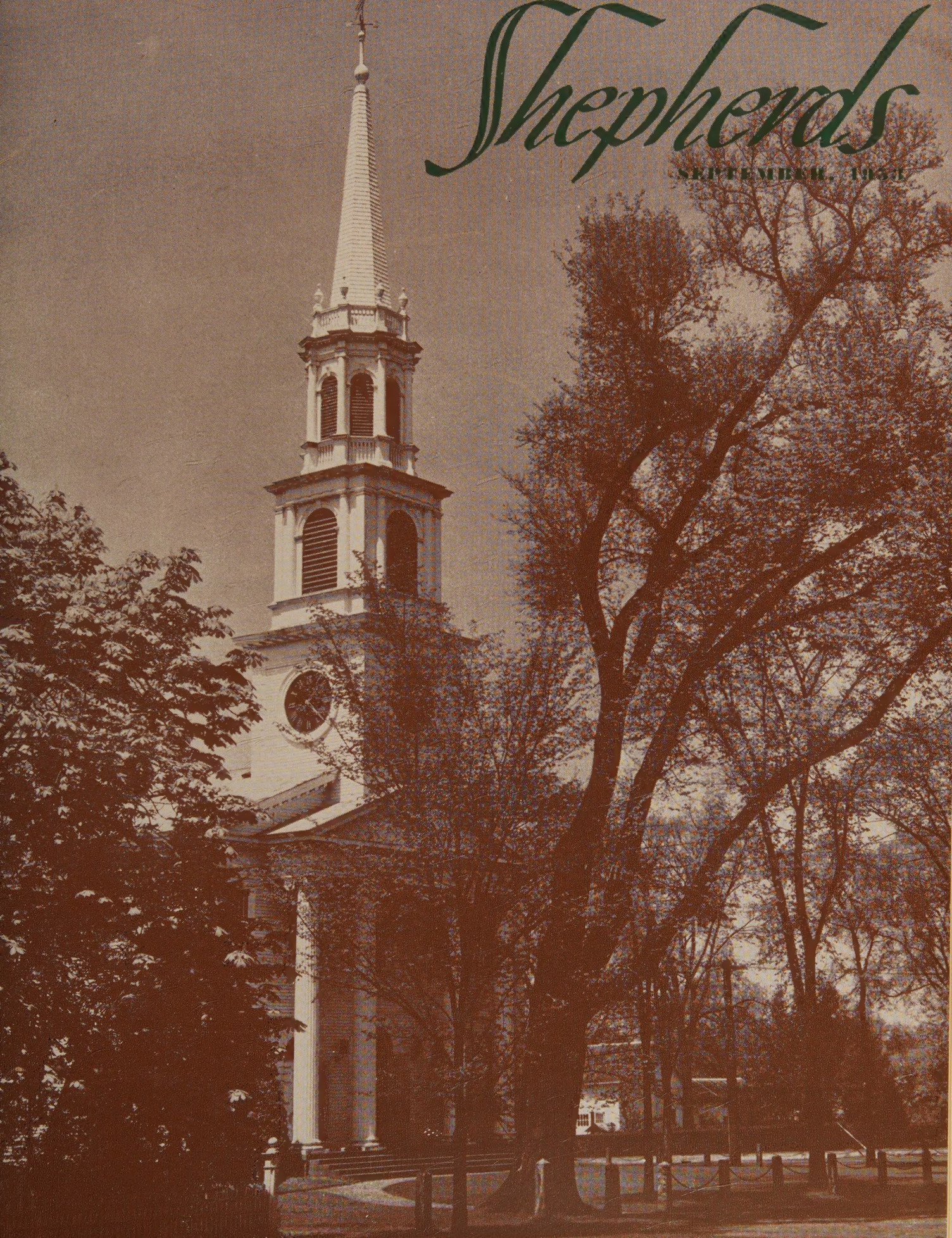
Shepherds

SEPTEMBER, 1953



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To Obtain Evangelistic Tracts Designed to

Deepen the Spiritual Life of Your People
and
Stimulate Them to Christian Action

You Will Receive

Tracts to help save the sinner, reach the unreached, arouse the indifferent, and strengthen the active church member. Tracts to inform and inspire. Tracts you will be pleased to send out in your name, or in the name of your church—at $1.50 per 100 per month! (To non-club members most of these tracts will sell at $2.00 per 100.)

The September Selection

PATHWAYS TO POWER, by G. Ernest Thomas

A forceful leaflet emphasizing the ways essential to the spiritual life.

$1.50 per 100

To non-club members, $2.00 per 100

1908 Grand Avenue **TIDINGS** **Nashville 5, Tennessee**

SHEPHERDS

For Commission on Membership
and Evangelism in the Local Church

September, 1953
Vol. 7—No. 12

Geo. H. Jones, *Editor*
Gordon Pratt Baker, *Editorial Associate*
John G. Walton, *Director of Promotion*
D. E. Jackson, *Business Manager*

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee

Chairmen of the Commissions on Membership and Evangelism in local churches, whose names and addresses are available, receive *Shepherds* each month free of charge. Pastors, District Superintendents, and District and Conference Secretaries of Evangelism are requested to report these names and addresses, giving the name of the church, charge, District, and Conference.

Total circulation this issue, 58,000

Individuals may subscribe at the rate of $1.50 per year. Churches may furnish *Shepherds* to the members of their Commissions on Membership and Evangelism at the rate of $1.00 per person, for 10 or more persons.

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HANDY ORDER BLANK

TIDINGS EVANGELISTIC LITERATURE

World Wide Communion Sunday October 4, 1953

A Great Day

- to raise the spiritual level of your members
- to make your inactive members active
- to "Give God A Chance Now!"

World Wide Communion Materials

——— **World Wide Communion Covenant Cards** 60¢ per 100 ———

——— **Invitation Cards** $1.00 per 100 ———

——— **Invitation Folder** $1.00 per 100 ———

——— **W. W. Communion Letterheads** 75¢ per 100 ———

——— **W. W. Communion Bulletins** $1.00 per 100 ———

——— **Printed Communion Service** $1.50 per 100 ———

——— **My Church Attendance Record Cards** 50¢ per 100 ———
Communion Sunday to Christmas

——— **My Church Loyalty Covenant Card** 60¢ per 100 ———

——— **Attendance Registration Cards** 50¢ per 100 ———

Communion Leaflets

——— **"Draw Near With Faith"** $2.00 per 100 ———

——— **I Come to the Communion Table** $2.00 per 100 ———

——— **"This Do in Remembrance of Me"** $1.00 per 100 ———

The Tract of the Month

——— **Pathways to Power** $2.00 per 100 ———
by G. Ernest Thomas
A helpful tract by the Director of the Spiritual Life Department of the General Board of Evangelism. Emphasizes ways essential to the spiritual life.

Attendance Chart

——— **Church Attendance Chart** 10¢ each ———
For charting your attendance over a period of a year. Will create renewed interest in church attendance.

Two Helpful Books

——— **Evangelism for Our Age** 35¢ each; 12 for $3.00 ———
Messages by Thirteen Bishops (104 pages)

——— **A Protestant Primer** 25¢ each ———
by Clarence A. Seidenspinner (64 pages)

MAKE WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY A MEMORABLE DAY IN YOUR CHURCH

The Religious Census

____ **"The Religious Census"** 10¢; 7 for 50¢ ____
by Eugene E. Golay
(In the packet, but available separately)

____ **The Religious Census Packet** (For the Friendly Community Study or Religious Census) ____

Each Packet contains sufficient materials to conduct the Religious Census in each size community listed below.

( )	500 population—Packet 1 Price,	$ 2.50
( )	750 population—Packet 2 Price,	3.75
( )	1,000 population—Packet 3 Price,	5.00
( )	1,500 population—Packet 4 Price,	7.00
( )	2,000 population—Packet 5 Price,	9.00
( )	2,500 population—Packet 6 Price,	11.00
( )	3,000 population—Packet 7 Price,	13.00
( )	4,000 population—Packet 8 Price,	17.00
( )	5,000 population—Packet 9 Price,	21.00

Mark Price of Your Packet Here $____

The Youth Emphasis

____ **Census Card for School Survey** 50¢ per 100 ____

____ **Christian Witness Mission Poster** 10¢ each ____

Other Books and Booklets

____ **Holy Habits of the Spiritual Life** 35¢; 12 for $3.00 ____
by G. Ernest Thomas (64 pages)

____ **Tell Me the Story of John Wesley** 10¢ each; 12 for $1.00; 100 for $8.00 ____

____ **The Methodist Primer** 35¢; 12 for $3.00 ____
by Bishop Charles C. Selecman

____ **The Local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism,** by C. Lloyd Daugherty 25¢ each; 5 or more, 20¢ each ____

A Helpful Leaflet

____ **Some Essential Methodist Beliefs** ____
by Robert G. Tuttle 5¢ each; $4.00 per 100 ____

Please Do Not Write in This Space

Enrollment Card

Please enroll our church in the Good Tidings TRACT-OF-THE-MONTH-CLUB. Please consider this a standing order to send us _____ (50 or more) of the tract selected each
(enter number)
month, and charge to our account. We will remit in full at least quarterly. Begin at once with "Pathways to Power," by G. Ernest Thomas—the September selection. This and all other monthly tract selections are to be non-denominational in character. Send tracts to

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

CHURCH_____ DISTRICT_____ CONFERENCE_____
(if Methodist)

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tenn.

PLEASE FILL MY ORDER AS CHECKED.

Total Amount of Order_____

( ) Payment enclosed ( ) Charge to treasurer ( ) Charge to my account

_____
Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss

_____
NAME

_____
ADDRESS

_____
Church Treasurer

_____
Address

Date _____ Order placed by _____

Please sign, do not type, your name in the space provided above. Sorry, no orders on consignment.

WORLD WIDE *Communion* SUNDAY

October 4, 1953

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY, October 4, should be one of the great days in the calendar of every church this fall. In this special observance each local congregation has the opportunity to join Christians of all denominations in all nations at a common table that stretches 25,000 miles around the world. At this sacred table all human distinctions fade in the glorious light of the Truth shining from the face of Jesus Christ. We are reminded again that Christianity is supra-racial—"there is neither Jew nor Greek." It is supra-intellectual—"there is neither barbarian nor Scythian." It is supra-social—"there is neither bond nor free." In Christ there is a true "United Nations" of the Spirit. We need to reaffirm this basic Christian concept in a day when there are so many forces seeking to tear apart the human family.

SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

Purpose

—To exalt the reality of our unity in Christ Jesus
—To reaffirm the truth of the real presence of Christ in our hearts
—To challenge every member to renew his loyalty to Christ and His Church as he receives the Lord's Supper
—To make this day a great spiritual experience for each communicant
—To urge our people to practice the Holy Habits of the spiritual life throughout the year
—To lift up the world wide task of the Christian faith—"The World Is My Parish"
—To dedicate our lives to the winning of new persons to Christ and His Church

Preparation

1. Action—By formal vote of the Official Board enlist your Church—
   —To order necessary materials
   —To unite in the observance of World Wide Communion Sunday, October 4
   —To promote a church loyalty emphasis during October
   —To initiate a program of evangelism to help win your church's share of the 250,000 new members before December 31
2. Prayer—Enlist the prayer groups in your church to pray for the objectives of the observance. Have special prayer in all services during September. Enroll families for family altars.
3. Publicity
   —Carry material in church bulletins during September
   —Unite with other churches in securing newspaper stories
   —Write a letter on the World Wide Communion letterhead, urging every member to be present for the service
   —Send a leaflet on the significance of the day for each Christian
4. Materials
   —Order *at once* necessary materials from TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennesse
   —Suggested materials
   World Wide Communion letterheads
   Bulletins for World Wide Communion
   Covenant Card for World Wide Mission of Evangelism
   Special Leaflets
   Attendance Registration cards "Give God A Chance" or "See You In Church" materials
5. Visitation
   —The week before October 4, plan a visitation in the homes of all church families by selected teams of lay people
   —Workers should meet for training periods on Sunday afternoon, September 27

VISITATION DAY—SEPTEMBER 27

1. Before this date the minister should select 10 per cent of the most capable members as Visitors. (Get them to sign the "Give God A Chance" Worker's Agreement card.).

   Provide the workers with these vital materials:
   - "Give God A Chance" stickers for windows or doors
   - "Give God A Chance" invitation cards for World Wide Communion
   - World Wide Communion Christ Loyalty Covenant cards

   Publicize the church through using the following:
   - "Give God A Chance" posters and stamps
   - "Give God A Chance" letterheads or printed letters

   (All these items are available from TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee)

2. Ask the Visitors' cooperation in four things—

   Attending an Instruction Conference for Visitors on Sunday afternoon, 2:00 to 3:00 o'clock

   Visiting all members and constituents on Sunday afternoon, September 27

   Following up on Monday and Tuesday evenings those not at home on Sunday, until all members and constituents have received a personal call

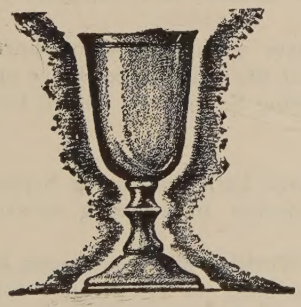
   Accepting responsibility to promote Church Attendance during October

3. A Dedication Service for the Visitors can be a very impressive part of the program. At the morning service, the workers are called before the chancel and set apart by prayer for their special duty

4. The Visitors will go two by two. They will be asked to follow up on their assignments until every person on their list has been informed regarding the observance of World Wide Communion and the "Give God A Chance" Crusade, and has been given an opportunity to pledge participation. The signed Covenant cards are to be given to the minister as soon as the assignment is completed. When all the cards are in, it is suggested that the pastor mail a personal letter of commendation to each family, urging its full support of the "Give God A Chance" movement

Program—Plan carefully and prayerfully every detail of the program this day

1. Give careful attention to the music selected. Hymns and anthems should be in harmony with the theme of the day
2. Do something special to prepare the atmosphere of the sanctuary—a lighted cross on the communion table—flowers in the chancel—lighted candles—a picture of Christ in the center
3. Have an attendance registration of the entire congregation on World Wide Communion Sunday and each Sunday in October
4. Arrange two morning communion services in order that every member may have an opportunity to participate
5. Plan to administer the Holy Communion at the evening worship for those who were unable to attend in the morning
6. Preach a challenging gospel message and invite persons to make the commitment to Christ and the Church
7. Take the Holy Communion to all shut-ins who are unable to attend because of age or illness
8. Emphasize the World Wide Mission of Evangelism
9. Call on all prospects for membership discovered in Attendance Registration and seek to win them for Christ and His Church



A WORLD WIDE COMMUNION HYMN

(Tune: DUNDEE [French] C. M.)

As WE today our faith confess,
Lord, give us eyes to see
The host of those around our world
Whose hearts are turned to thee.

May a real sense of brotherhood
Be born in all mankind;
May the true spirit of the Christ
Fill heart, and soul, and mind.

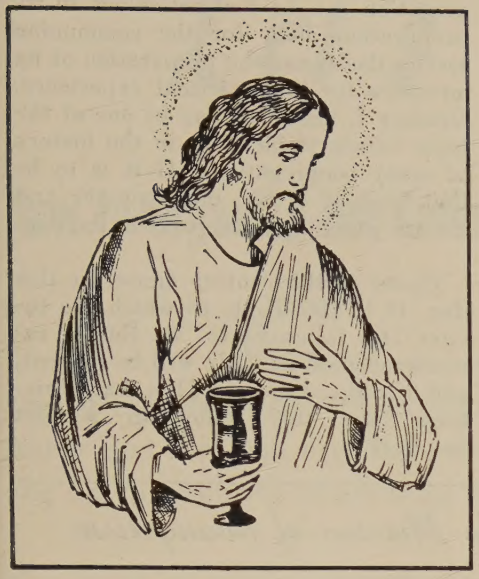
His body was broken for all;
His blood for all was shed.
As we share in his sacrifice
May we by him be led.

In ways of loving sacrifice,
Lord, bless us as we give
Of good things that have come to us
That needy ones may live.

Amen.

by

Frederick B. Morley, Pastor
First Methodist Church
Oceanside, New York



A Fellowship Without Frontiers

by
Jesse M. Bader
Executive Director, Joint Department
of Evangelism, National Council of Churches

THE fourteenth observance of World Wide Communion will be held this year on October 4. From the beginning this service has been held on the first Sunday in October.

This world wide fellowship of Christians about the Holy Communion Table on the first Sunday in October has been growing. It has come to be a fellowship without frontiers, since Christians in almost every land of the world participate. It is an ecumenical fellowship at the grass roots. This fellowship is composed of all those in each local membership who are at their own church's communion table. Union communion services are not contemplated as a part of the plan for the day.

There are two emphases to keep in mind as the churches around the world prepare themselves for this ecumenical fellowship about the Lord's Table. One is that each local congregation shall seek to have every resident member present on this day as a part of this fellowship. The second is that those present may be made conscious of their oneness in Christ with all other Christians around the world as they partake of the bread and drink of the cup.

The Lord's Table is 25,000 miles long on World Wide Communion Sunday. In imagination we can envision the first groups of Christians out in the Fiji Islands and in New Zealand before the Holy Table. Some will sit in their pews and others will kneel as they partake of the sacred emblems of his broken body and shed blood. We move on in our imagination to Australia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and other lands where Christians live and serve.

Many different nationalities will be before the Lord's Table on this day. They will represent many colors of skin, languages, races, kinds of dress, and various denominations. These all belong to Christ. They wear his name. They serve him because they love him.

On Sunday, October 4, when it is 11:00 o'clock with the Christians in the Fiji Islands, it is 6:00 P.M. the evening before on Saturday, October 3, in New York; 5:00 o'clock in Chicago; 4:00 o'clock in Denver, and 3:00 o'clock in Los Angeles. There will be no hour during the 24 when congregations of Christians will not be at some Communion Table. This is, indeed, a fellowship without frontiers.

The Holy Communion Table will be spread, with its emblems of the bread

World Wide Communion Prayer

ETERNAL GOD, our Father, we thank Thee for this day of remembrance and dedication. As we come to the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ, humbly confessing our sins and trusting only in His redeeming love, we pray that Thy Spirit may prepare us to receive the bread and the cup to the comfort of our hearts, the strengthening of our wills, and our renewal in Christian discipleship and service. ✠ We bless Thee that this World Wide Communion observance reminds us of our unity in Christ and our Christian fellowship with one another. Thou hast made of one blood all the children of men to dwell upon the earth in the spirit of the Son of Man. Thou callest them into one household of faith, even the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ of whom the whole family in heaven and on earth is named. Thou offerest freely Thy grace in Him, to enable them to live like Him and for Him. Grant, O Lord, unto us and to all mankind the will to become Thy fellow workers in this day of suspicion and division. ✠ May the purpose for which our Saviour laid down His life be realized, that we all may be one in Thee that the world may believe that Thou didst send Him. By Thy Spirit help us to obey that new commandment that we love one another as He hath loved us. Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name do we give glory this day, for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake, in the name of Christ, the Saviour of the world.

AMEN.

—Jesse M. Bader

and the fruit of the vine, in stately cathedrals and humble meeting houses. It will be observed on battleships, on battlefields, and in military hospitals. Faithful ministers will take the Holy Communion to shut-ins, and the aged, in homes and hospitals during the day. The churches everywhere will do their best to make it possible for every Christian to be a part of this fellowship without frontiers.

Every year many congregations have been following the plan of sending out selected workers to call on all the membership on the last Sunday afternoon in September in order to secure their interest and, if possible, their pledge to attend the World Wide Communion service the following Sunday. As a result, many congregations have experienced an Easter attendanee on World Wide Communion Sunday. Some pastors have arranged for two Sunday morning communion services in order to care for all who come.

There is a word of caution that needs to be said just here. Nothing should be said or done in connection with World Wide Communion Sunday that would leave the impression with anyone, anywhere, that this sacred service is being "promoted." The entire celebration of the Holy Communion should have about it a deep sense of reverence. No congregation can be too meticulous in its preparation, both for the communion service itself, and the preparation of its members for this spiritual experience. October 4, this year, can be one of the most unforgettable days in the history of many congregations. If it is to be that kind of a day, much prayer and careful planning must precede the day.

Christ is the central figure on this day. It is His Table to which He invites His followers to "do this in remembrance of me." He will be present, and it is in and through Him that Christians have this fellowship without frontiers.

Emphasize the World Wide Mission of Evangelism

IN YOUR CHURCH ON WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

"Give God A Chance" to Make the World Your Parish

Invitation Cards **$1.00 per 100**

A beautiful printed "Special Invitation to Attend World Wide Communion Sunday" card for mailing or carrying to every member. Across the bottom of the card are the words, "Give God A Chance."

Bulletins for World Communion Sunday **$1.00 per 100**

Pastors who do not subscribe to a regular weekly bulletin service prefer to use this bulletin because of its appropriateness and World Communion message. Inside pages are left blank for printing or mimeographing local program and announcements. Non-denominational.

Printed Communion Service **$1.50 per 100**

This is a Communion Service, and is ready for use. It contains the prayers, scripture, responses, etc., for ministers and people, being designed for churches which desire a fresh form, and yet one that is adopted from the Ritual itself.

My Church Attendance Record **50c per 100**

Supply every member of the church and Sunday School with one of these cards to keep his own attendance record from World Wide Communion Sunday through Christmas.

"I Come to the Communion Table"
Leaflet by Roy L. Smith **$2.00 per 100**

Excellent for mailing to every home or distributing at church service on World Wide Communion Sunday.

"Draw Near With Faith" **$1.50 per 100**

An excellent tract by Bishop W. Earl Ledden. Should be given to every member before or at the World Wide Communion Service.

My Church Loyalty Covenant **60c per 100**

A pledge card for World Wide Communion Sunday. Offers opportunity to pledge church attendance, church loyalty, and Christian witnessing.

World Wide Communion Letterheads **75c per 100**

An 8½x11-inch letterhead for printing or mimeographing pastor's World Communion letter to members. (Because pastors prefer to use personal or church envelopes, we have no envelopes to match.)

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

Let's Get Organized!

How to Organize the Commission on Membership and Evangelism for ACTION!

THERE are 16 (count them!) tremendously important responsibilities given by the 1952 *Discipline* to the Commission on Membership and Evangelism (¶¶ 222 and 125). It is not likely that a church can deal adequately with these duties unless this Commission is organized around the six functions to which these duties are related.

WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND

1. That every church, however large or small, organize this Commission with six Committees
2. That these Committees be
   - —Committee on Prospects
   - —Committee on Visitation Evangelism
   - —Committee on Church Attendance
   - —Committee on Spiritual Life
   - —Committee on Individual and Family Devotions
   - —Committee on Church Membership Rolls
3. That each Commission member be on one or more of these Committees
4. That the Chairman of each Committee be a member of the Commission
5. That, where possible, the Committees be "filled out" from the general membership of the church in proportion to the need for additional manpower to complete the plans undertaken

THIS KIND OF ORGANIZATION SHOULD HELP GREATLY

1. To assure a "full rounded" local church program of evangelism
2. To divide important responsibilities so that each gets adequate attention
3. To share opportunities for service with more people so that none have to do much

SUGGESTIONS FOR COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

Prospects—Employees of public utilities sometimes have access to names and addresses of newcomers applying for water, gas, electric, or telephone service. Post office employees or mail carriers can give helpful "unofficial" information. Public school superintendents learn of new families through registration of new students. If possible, use people whose regular occupation gives them opportunity to learn of prospective members for Christ and the Church. Use youth leaders, if youth are to be used in community surveys to find the unchurched.

Visitation Evangelism—Persons who can *plan* and *administer* a program, as well as being experienced and enthusiastic about Visitation Evangelism, are needed here. Chairman should be reliable and effective in such details as providing materials, teams, prospect cards, etc., in advance of projects. Mature youth should be a part of this Committee.

Church Attendance—A popular "promoter," blessed with enthusiasm, imagination, and determination, would make a good chairman. It will take time for this Committee to do its work well. Youth could be an asset. In urban committees, persons with access to newspapers, radio, etc., could be helpful.

Spiritual Life—Persons who know from experience the power of prayer and the joy of the dedicated life are natural leaders here—also persons who are concerned about reclaiming the negligent members of the church, and persons who see the importance of Christian nurture and the cultivation of church members in the whole program of the church (e.g., church school, W.S.C.S., Men's Club membership, etc.).

Individual and Family Devotions—For chairman, select a person who believes in daily devotions and who could take the responsibility for ordering, distributing, and promoting THE UPPER ROOM and other devotional literature throughout the congregation. A reliable young person could enlist other young people in this work.

Church Membership Rolls—Chairman could be the Church Membership Secretary. He should be chosen for his general knowledge of the church membership and his interest in finding the new addresses of members who have moved, etc.

Supplies Available:

1. Charts showing organization of the local church. Available for local church officials and leaders only. Size 8½x11. 25¢ a dozen.
2. Leaflets on the Composition and Duties of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism—25¢ a dozen.
3. Manual—*The Commission on Membership and Evangelism*—64 pages on organization and program—25¢ each, 5 for $1.00. (Eight copies gives one to the pastor, one to the Commission chairman, and one to each of the six Committee chairmen.)

(These materials are available from Tidings, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.)

INTRODUCING . . .

A NEW PLAN FOR EVANGELISM

In the Local Church

"The Project for the Month"

The basic idea is to present in each issue of SHEPHERDS magazine a selection of evangelistic projects which can be

Organized – – Promoted – – Completed

in approximately one month

by the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in the Local Church.

Any Commission which will undertake one or more of these recommended projects each month for the coming year will lead its church in a well-rounded program of evangelism which will result in:

- More people discovered and won for Christ and the Church
- More people in attendence at church services
- New heights of spiritual joy and development for the congregation
- New resources to devote to the entire program of the church

---

To take fullest advantage of this program in the local church we make three recommendations:

1. Organize the local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism into six dynamic committees—see "How to Organize the Commission on Membership and Evangelism for Action" on page 5. These need not be large committees—in some instances, one person will suffice.

2. Consider this as a minimum evangelistic program to which may be added as many projects and plans as the church can undertake. Each month we expect to present one or more alternate projects which may be used in place of, or in addition to, the recommended "Project for the Month."

3. Recognize the importance of timing. Also note that the project for any month will usually have to be thoroughly planned and organized by the Commission during the first two weeks and the operation conducted during the second two weeks, although in some instances the division of time will receive different proportions.

The Projects to be presented each month will follow a pattern of logical development wherein what is done one month should be a help to the project for the next month. So LET'S CALL THE COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM TOGETHER AND GET STARTED ON THIS PLAN.

Now!!

The Commission on Membership and Evangelism

"Project for the Month"

of September Is

A SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Relating the Local Church to the World Mission on Evangelism

WHY—To Confirm our experience of God — To Strengthen — To Share

WHEN—Select a suitable week-end
or one whole day
or several consecutive evenings
or supper and evening of one day

WHERE—Preferably "away from home" at a Youth Training Camp, or a summer cottage, or a hunting lodge, or a "cabin in the woods," or a park or picnic grounds. Accommodations, accessibility, and duration of the Rrereat will direct the decision.

Second choice—Some suitable place in the church —comfortable, informally worshipful—free of distractions and disturbance.

Also good—particularly for small groups—a conveniently located and hospitable home—or the parsonage

WHO—*Everybody* should be welcomed but *particularly* urged to attend are: All persons holding elective or appointive offices—such as

- Stewards, Trustees, and other Official Board Members.
- Officers of W.S.C.S., M.Y.F., Y.A.F., Men's Club, and other organizations.
- All church school officers, teachers, class officers and sponsors.
- Church "related" leaders of Scouts, W.C.T.U., and others who use the church facilities.

WHAT—The Program should emphasize

Fellowship — **Prayer**
Meditation — **Christian Witness**

Each element is important. Plan time for each. Adhere to the plan. The type of meeting place, the number and ages of people involved, and the duration of the Retreat should be taken into consideration in planning the program. Frequent change of pace and emphasis is better than longer periods with only one emphasis.

1—*Fellowship*—

(a) In a week-end Retreat this will have its best opportunity. *Plan a good time* at meal time—group hymn singing and social programs are helpful. Provide song sheets or hymnals. *Plan* to take advantage of whatever situation exists to further the spirit of good fellowship. Have a leader and committee to help if time and place warrant. *But do not allow this emphasis to overshadow the main purpose of this Spiritual Life Retreat.*

(b) In a one-day Retreat brief rest and relaxation periods *must* be planned. Adhere strictly to the plan. Frequent "brief breaks" are better than one or two long periods of "idleness" which are more tiresome than activity. Mid-morning and mid-afternoon beverage and cookie "snacks" provide profitable rest and relaxation periods. Frequent hymn singing is a spiritual blessing on fellowship level.

(c) In evening meetings (either several consecutive, or a single supper and evening session) fellowship should not be overlooked. However, since time is at a premium, the social emphasis could well be limited to the supper table and/or to a time of "refreshment" at the close of the evening program.

2—*Meditation*—

(a) Have well-rounded presentations on "What We Believe" with particular emphasis on the reality of the Christian experience of God in everybody's life. What does it mean to be a Christian? (See *Beliefs of a Methodist Christian* or *Our Protestant Faith.*) This is not the occasion for a lecture or sermon. It should be a meditation and discussion period. The leader need not know all the answers.

"Revive Us Again"

(b) Consider the spiritual rewards of an earnest study of "Alone With God." This can be used either as a personal and private soul searching "Alone"—or in groups—provided plenty of time is taken and every person has a copy of the pamphlet.

(c) In these periods of meditation, time must be given to listen to God. Let there be time for thought. We need not all think on the same subject, or at the same time, or in the same way. Encourage individual meditation.

3—*Prayer*—

(a) Spend a considerable proportion of the time in individual and group, silent and public prayer.

(b) Let each person and each group seek and find the Aldersgate experience of John Wesley's "heart strangely warmed."

(c) Let the group, and each person in it, seek to recapture through prayers of confession, contrition, and rededication the Wesleyan urge to "seek and save the lost" wherever they are—at home or abroad—in every place where we can exert an influence for Christ.

(d) Let each person and each group recover the Wesleyan urgency to "transform society," to build the kingdom of God "on earth as it is in heaven." Let hearts be warmed with the love and mercy of God so that He can use people to transform the wickedness of this world into the righteousness of the Kingdom.

(e) Let each person experience through the power and spirit of prayer the reality of the World Fellowship of Believers in Christ. We are "one people"—to win this world for Him.

4—*Christian Witness*—

(a) Every person in the Retreat should have some time and opportunity to make at least a brief statement and testimony (or witness) on "What God Means to Me."

(b) If necessary, divide into groups small enough (perhaps 12 or 15 to each group) to permit and to encourage this witness.

(c) Designate certain leaders who can guide and encourage this witnessing. Perhaps the witness could best grow out of the prayer or meditation periods.

(d) Emphasize that Wesley's witness had two accents —"The Warm Heart" and "The World Parish." Ours, too, should include gratitude to God for what He has done for us on the one hand—and our concern that we should win the world for Him on the other.

This project is in the area of the responsibility of the Committee on Spiritual Life in the Commission on Membership and Evangelism. (See page 5) The committee may assume leadership in this project, but it should be helped and guided by the pastor and the Commission as a whole.

In many parts of the Church there will be District-wide Spiritual Life Retreats during September. (See the suggested program for these Retreats, in this issue of *Shepherds.*) This "Project" can either be used as a local church activity or adopted to the District level.

Supplies available:

All materials referred to above may be secured from Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn. See order blank for list and prices.

In October, the "Project for the Month" will be "A Mission for Members." This will present procedures for a local church United Evangelistic Mission built on the foundation of September's Spiritual Life Retreat for leaders of the church. This, too, will be in conjunction with—and as local church participation in—the World Mission of Evangelism.

Pastors!

FREE—IF YOU WRITE FOR IT!

Evangelistic Leaders' Packet

Containing samples of vital materials for use in the local church in connection with the Methodist World Mission of Evangelism goal of "Winning 250,000 Persons for Christ."

INCLUDES

Two booklets, prayer covenant card, attendance pledge card, poster, hymnal band, bumper sticker, proofs of 1-, 2-, 4-, and 8-column newspaper mats, proof of billboard sheets, window streamer, special membership certificate, program leaflet, and handy order blank. Write today to

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

The Spiritual Life Retreat
in the World Mission of Evangelism

by G. Ernest Thomas

THE WORLD MISSION OF EVANGELISM, and the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of John Wesley, will be deepened and made permanent as thousands of Methodists share in Spiritual Life Retreats during the Fall of 1953. The Retreats need not be of a specified length. They may be conducted over a weekend, or during a single day, or even during an evening set aside for that purpose. However, the Retreats which include at least an afternoon and evening session will prove more rewarding.

The anniversary of John Wesley's birth is of significance to every member of The Methodist Church. The Spiritual Life Retreats, which emphasize and perpetuate the essentials in the Wesleyan Movement, are to be conducted by leaders representative of every group within the Church. Retreats for laymen may be sponsored by the Board of Lay Activities. Those for women will be planned and led by the Spiritual Life Secretaries of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Retreats for church school teachers and for youth may be planned by the Board of Education. Those for ministers should be part of the program of the Conference and District Boards of Evangelism.

Why a Retreat?

Retreats are for meditation, prayer, and sharing. They re-create the spirit of early Methodism in which the Class Meeting was recognized as essential to growing faith regardless of how many times a Methodist Christian attended preaching services. It was the Wesleyan genius that Christians should meet for prayer, fellowship, and sharing.

The Spiritual Life Retreats which are held in connection with the World Mission of Evangelism will be devoted to:

1. Meditation upon the essential elements of Methodist belief and practice
2. Prayer for the guidance and power of God in meeting the challenge of the present hour in Methodist history
3. Sharing of personal and world needs for the Christian witness

How Conduct a Retreat?

Large numbers of people and outstanding addresses and sermons are not necessary for a Retreat. Individual participation in planning, presentation, and prayer is essential.

If more than 100 people are present, it may prove wise to divide into sections with separate leaders.

It will be helpful if prayer groups, including not more than 12 persons, are conducted at certain periods throughout the Retreat. Experience has taught that greater freedom in sharing and in individual prayer is enjoyed if the group is not too large. The early Methodist Class Meetings rarely included more than 12 persons. When the groups became larger, they were divided. The wisdom of Mr. Wesley's plan has been demonstrated again and again.

Several suggestions of a general nature need to be considered here.

First, endeavor to create an informal setting for the Retreat. There are certain values in having such a meeting in a church sanctuary, but often it is more rewarding to use a room with a homey atmosphere. It will be helpful, however, if a simple worship center is arranged consisting of an open Bible or a picture of Christ.

Second, plan plenty of singing or reading of familiar Wesleyan hymns.

Third, during periods of prayer encourage the practice of kneeling. If the Retreat is in a church sanctuary it will be helpful if the group gathers around the altar to pray.

Three Periods of Meditation

The Retreat may be divided into three periods. The themes to be shared during those periods are central in the Methodist experience and faith. The subjects are general enough so that any amount of time devoted to the theme will be profitably used. Different individuals may be designated before the Retreat to bring a message on each of the three themes which are presented in the periods which follow. It will be helpful to read aloud related matter from Wesley's *Journal,* from Church's *Knight of the Burning Heart,* or from some other Wesley book.

I. First Period—The Warm Heart

Consider the relationship of Experience to vital faith. Read the passage in Wesley's *Journal* for May 24, 1738:

> I think it was about five this morning, that I opened my Testament on those words: "There are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, even that ye should be partakers of the divine nature." Just as I went out, I opened it again on those words, "Thou are not far from the kingdom of God." In the afternoon I was asked to go to St. Paul's. The anthem was, "Out of the deep have I called unto Thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice. O let Thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint. If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it? For there is mercy with Thee; therefore shalt Thou be feared. O Israel, trust in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his sins."
>
> In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

Discuss the place of Christian Experience in gaining religious certainty.

Read and discuss the following statement made by John Wesley:

> The understanding of divine truths is to be sought for in the paths of obedience and experience, and by carefully observing the workings of the Holy Spirit in the soul. The truths of religion cannot be clearly known but by those who derive their knowledge not from commentaries, but experience. Thus alone may we attain to an inward, practical, experimental feeling of the knowledge of God.

Let there be Testimony, Sharing, Questions, and Prayer.

II. Second Period—The World Parish

Help those present to recapture the Wesleyan urge to "seek and save the lost."

Consider Wesley's words: "I look upon the whole world as my parish."

Consider further words of Wesley:

> Give me a hundred men who fear nothing but God, hate nothing but sin, and are determined to know nothing among men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and I will set the world on fire with them.

Lead every person present to consider the implications of these words of challenge

—for personal witnessing
—for the local church to reach all the unchurched
—for the world mission of the Christian faith

Let there be Testimony, Sharing, Questions, and Prayer.

III. Third Period—Christian Perfection

Emphasize the place of Christian Perfection in the Wesleyan belief and practice.

Consider John Wesley's words:

> To glorify God with our bodies as well as with our spirits; to go through outward work with hearts lifted up to Him; to make our daily employment a sacrifice to God; to buy and sell, to eat and drink to His glory; that is worshipping God in spirit and in truth.

Rufus Jones described the results of Methodist Perfection in the following words:

> One of the most dynamic things the modern world has seen was that same evangelical movement (Methodism). It produced miracles of transformation. But the most remarkable thing about it was the freshly inspired social impulse which it produced. It reformed prisons, it stopped the slave trade, it freed slaves. It made its converts uncomfortable over wrong social conditions. It sent missionaries to create hospitals and to conquer ignorance in almost every land on the globe. It was always as much outward as it was inward, though its creative spring was assuredly a birth of new life from the central Source of Life.

Consider the Implications of Perfection
—for the personal life
—for the community
—for the world

Let there be Testimony, Sharing, Questions, and Prayer

In Summary

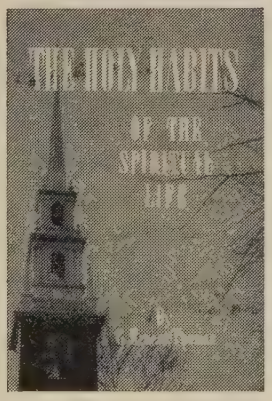
The outline for Spiritual Life Retreats as given here is sketchy. It can be adapted to any group meeting anywhere and at any time. The more lengthy Retreats will allow time for readings, for personal meditation, and for sharing. The following materials will prove helpful in preparing for and conducting the Retreat:

For Reading Aloud

Church, Leslie F., *Knight of the Burning Heart*, secure from The Methodist Book Store

"Selections from the Letters of John Wesley," secure from The Upper Room

"Tell Me the Story of John Wesley," secure from Tidings



To Deepen the Spiritual Life of Every Member

THE HOLY HABITS OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

by G. Ernest Thomas

A book to enlighten the new Christian and to strengthen the religious veteran.

64 pages; 35c each; 12 or more, 25c each

SOME ESSENTIAL METHODIST BELIEFS

by Robert G. Tuttle

A 12-page leaflet outlining the basic teachings of The Methodist Church

5c each; $4.00 per 100

1908 Grand Avenue TIDINGS Nashville 5, Tennessee

Our Greatest Work:

Personal Evangelism

by

Fred C. Schweinfurth
Executive Secretary, Commission on Evangelism
Evangelical and Reformed Church

SOMEONE inquired of the aged Lyman Beecher, "What do you consider the greatest, the main thing any person can do?" The sturdy old hero of many an evangelistic campaign answered, "It is not to delve into the mysterious realms of science; it is not to engage in theological study; it is not to become a successful barrister, or physician, or teacher. The greatest thing of all is winning men to the Christian faith and cause. It is for one person to bring another to Christ Jesus, the Saviour and Lord of life."

Attributes of the Spirit

There are certain attributes of the spirit which we must have and manifest if we are to be successful personal evangelists.

First, we must see to it that we are right with God. We must have a personal experience of the saving power of Christ.

Second, we must live more like Christ. Our life must be a validation of our faith. In short, we must be consistent Christians, practicing what we would preach.

Third, we must have a deep concern for others, for their moral and spiritual well-being here and in the hereafter. We must come to recognize the value of every human life, even the lowest, most hardened sinner.

Fourth, we must—with utter consecration—give ourselves to mastering the art of personal evangelism. While often a simple testimony, uttered stammeringly and hesitantly, wins a convert to Christ, nevertheless, our witness can become more effective and successful if we employ the proper techniques (approach, appeal, tact, and winsomeness). In other words, we must study to show ourselves to God as those approved, as workmen who have no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

Last, but not least, we must definitely seek the power of the Holy Spirit for this work. We must approach our task, not with a sense of our own sufficiency, or in any degree of self-confidence, but with a dependence on the eternal power to give the victory. We are not responsible for conversions, but we *are* responsible for introducing others to Christ and inviting them to know Him as Saviour. All we need to do is to bring others into the presence of Christ, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

What Now?

During a revival meeting a man prayed for the conversion of a neighbor, saying: "O Lord, touch my neighbor with thy finger." Just then an inner voice said, "You are God's finger. Did you ever speak to your neighbor about Christ and the Christian life? You go touch the man, and your prayer will be heard."

The man arose. His conscience was awakened and accused him. For almost a lifetime he had lived near his neighbor but had never spoken to him about his relation to Christ and the Christ-like way of life. Hundreds of opportunities came and went, but the conversation at such times was not about the one thing needful. Rather, it was about the weather, crops, politics, business, etc. The blessed privilege and imperative duty, the first business of a Christian to witness for Christ, had been left unfulfilled.

How is it with us?

Two
Significant Books

For Every Home

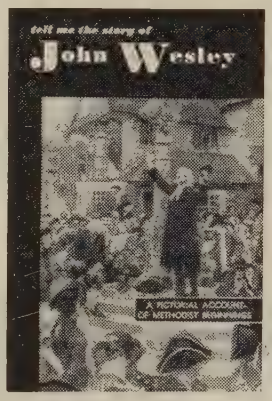
THE METHODIST PRIMER

by Bishop Charles C. Selecman

Revised and enlarged, this 80-page book is one of the best accounts ever written of Methodist history, doctrine, membership requirements, etc.

35¢ each; 12 or more, 25¢ each

For Every Member



TELL ME THE STORY OF JOHN WESLEY

A fascinating, 24-page, 2-color pictorial booklet concerning Methodist origins in both England and America. Excellent for general distribution in your church and church school.

10¢ each; 12 for $1.00
100 for $8.00

Tidings

a new sound filmstrip
The Romance of The Upper Room

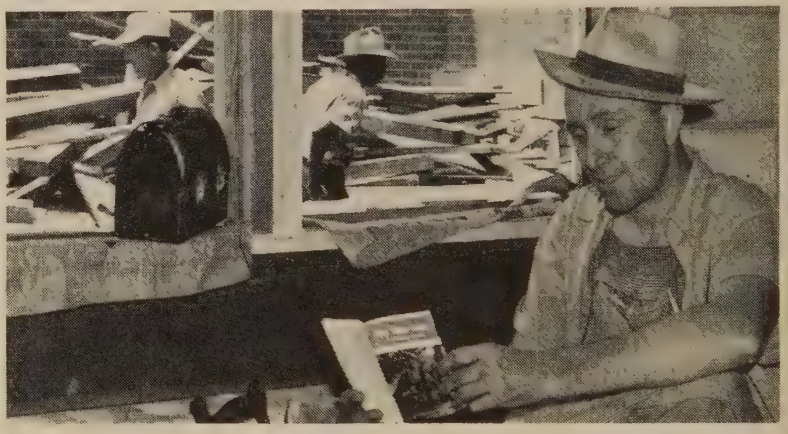
A new filmstrip, *The Romance of The Upper Room,* just now being released tells the dramatic story of the ministry, the message, and the growth of THE UPPER ROOM. It is an excellent teaching film for any group that uses THE UPPER ROOM or should become interested in the world's most widely used devotional guide.

It is issued and sold only in combination with another filmstrip, *The Church in Thy House,* which presents the Brents, a typical present-day family, who learned to find relief from the stresses and tensions of day-to-day living by making use of the resources of the family altar.

These two filmstrips, with sound, are good productions. They are available now from THE UPPER ROOM for a total cost of $7.50. Each requires 10 minutes to present the more than 50 pictures and two sides of a 12 inch recording (78 rpm). The low price is established to encourage the widest possible use.

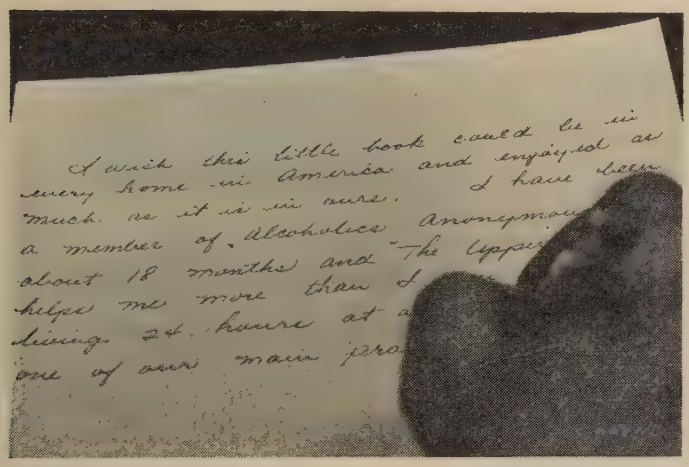
Effective as teaching tools, these filmstrips are useful for many groups, including occasions when the whole family is present.

The pocket edition of *The Upper Room* is carried by thousands of men and women in the armed services. Chaplains report it to be the piece of religious literature most in demand. Below, a workman reads a copy of *The Upper Room* during his lunch time.



Families find that the family altar *alters* the family.

The Upper Room is published in 21 editions. Above is a Japanese family using the Japanese edition and the Bible for their family devotions. At the left is a copy of the Braille edition in use.

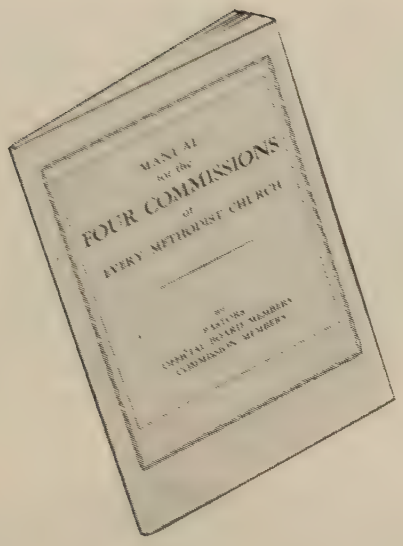


I wish this little book could be in every home in America and enjoyed as much as it is in ours. I have been a member of Alcoholics Anonymous about 18 months and "The Upper Room" helps me more than I can say. Living 24 hours at a time is one of our main pro

Although loved ones are separated by many miles they can have spiritual fellowship together by sharing the same Bible readings, the same meditations, and the same prayers, through *The Upper Room*.

Helping people to live one day at a time, to seek the resources of the Christian faith through Bible reading, prayer, and meditation, *The Upper Room* has been a boon to many lonely people. The testimony like that from members of Alcoholics Anonymous indicates its effectiveness.

Even children love *The Upper Room* for it usually contains a story or illustration that they can understand.



An Essential Book for Every Church

New Manual Presents a Helpful Guide to Effective Work in the Local Church

Invaluable to all pastors and local churches is the newly-published *Manual for the Four Commissions of Every Methodist Church.* Issued by the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, this volume gives a description of the over-all organization of the local church, after which it proceeds to explain the composition, duties, and opportunities of the Commissions on Membership and Evangelism, Education, Missions, and Finance.

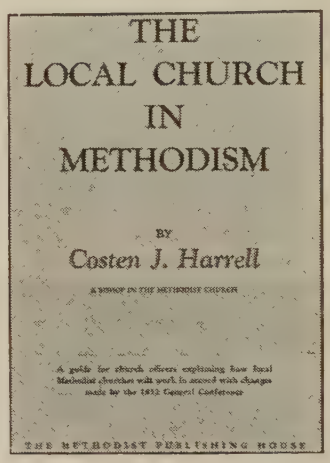
The chapters are contributed by the General Boards charged with specific responsibility in these areas of the Church's life. Thus, each chapter reflects the experience of a major denominational agency as it interprets for the local church the obligations and outreach of the commission which it describes.

In the profoundest sense, the volume is a very practical handbook in effective local church administration. As such, it should be carefully studied by all ministers, official board members, and chairmen and members of the commissions. Pastors might well plan to conduct a series of meetings for the purpose of instruction and discussion concerning the vital work of the four commissions, using this book as the basic text.

The *Manual for the Four Commissions of Every Methodist Church* will sell for 40¢ for single copies postpaid. In lots of six or more, the book is available at 30¢ a copy. Every pastor and every official board member should have a copy for reference and study. **Order the book from The Methodist Publishing House.**

A *Must* BOOK

For Every Pastor and His Officials



THE LOCAL CHURCH IN METHODISM

by Bishop Costen J. Harrell

A factual explanation and inspirational discussion of the local church in Methodism. Shows how local Methodist churches will work in accord with the changes made by the 1952 General Conference.

64 pages; 50c each

Order From

THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE

In Every Church

A Sunday Night Revival

MAKE no mistake about it. The Sunday night service can transform your church. Its informal nature and evangelistic character can instill new life into your people and thus release new power into your community. All it requires is a holy enthusiasm and some planning.

That such planning results in a lot of work goes without saying. Church members expect something "extra" if they are to attend church twice on Sunday. And, certainly, it takes something "extra" to lure the unchurched away from the theaters, the skating rinks, and the bowling alleys, the dance halls, and the saloons which operate so lucratively on Sunday night. Yet the very fact that these places attract the large numbers that they do only testifies to the emotional and spiritual hunger of their patrons. As Christians, we cannot deny the challenge of that testimony or the moral responsibility which inheres in it. At the same time, by constructively meeting the social and spiritual need thus manifested, we can satisfy the hungers of those who are currently outside the church.

In the first place, the pastor must devote just as much time and care to the preparation of this service as he gives to the morning program. While it will be informal, it must not leave the impression that everything is haphazard, as though what is being done is not too important anyway. For if the Sunday night worship is to change men's lives, it must bear witness to the kind of concern which demands only the best—the best in music, the best in preaching, the best in fellowship.

The "Fill a Pew" Plan

Experience has proved that there are several rather simple but very effective plans by which every Sunday night can be made a night of revival. Foremost among these is the "Fill a Pew" Plan, under which individuals are selected as "Pew Captains" and given the responsibility of filling certain pews by inviting their friends and neighbors to attend the services.

Local circumstances will, of course, require local adaptations; but, in general, the "Fill a Pew" Plan works as follows:

The sanctuary is divided into as many sections as its size requires. These sections are then lettered "A," "B," "C," etc., and the pews are numbered according to the section in which they are located ("A1," "B5," "D10," etc.). To prevent confusion, it is wise to type the numerals on small pieces of paper and fasten them to the arm rests by means of scotch tape.

Pew Captains Selected

Once this division has been made, the Pew Captains are selected, usually from among the men of the church, although some of the older youth may be enlisted in the enterprise. The captains are carefully informed of the section in which they will work, the numbers of the pews which they are expected to fill, and the total number of persons for whom they are responsible. Captains are asked to serve for specific periods of time, at the expiration of which another team of Pew Captains is chosen. Frequently, this time period is from four to six weeks.

During the week, the Captains invite individuals to share the Sunday worship hour. They visit the inactive members, and call upon prospects, and welcome to the church service those who have come in response to their invitation. As a result, their infectious enthusiasm persuades unchurched persons to find their places regularly before the altar on the Sabbath day.

While the stewards of the church should be employed in the operation of this plan, the roll of men members of the church should also be used in selecting the Pew Captains. Many who respond eagerly to the invitation to serve as captains have been irregular or inactive. Occasional after-church meetings of the Pew Captains will provide wonderful opportunities to express appreciation and maintain enthusiasm.

A Family Night

In many churches the Sunday night program is planned with the whole family in mind.

The evening begins with a light supper, usually served about 6:00 P.M. This affords opportunity for informal fellowship in a Christian atmosphere. Families are encouraged to bring their unchurched friends, who find the warm companionship of this hour very attractive. Then, following the supper, there is a chapel service at 7:00, or a "University of Life" program in which study classes are arranged according to age and interest groups. Those attending the classes are encouraged to search the scriptures, to discuss home and community problems, to explore the various ways of vital Christian living, and to learn how every individual—man, woman, or child—is important in the Kingdom of God.

One of the distinctive advantages of this kind of program is the opportunity which it provides for those who are puzzled, or who need information, to ask the questions that will resolve their doubts as well as enlighten them. Also, it stresses the fact that religion is a family affair. Thus, it encourages the establishment of family altars.

"One-Day Revival"

Many churches have planned each Sunday night as a "one-day revival" service. This means that every Sunday night receives as much careful attention, in every detail, as the church would devote to a session of a protracted meeting. And the results are nearly always in geometrical ratio to the type of planning the program receives.

Of paramount importance in the planning of the "One-Day Revival" is the provision for a large chorus choir. This should include as many young people as possible, since youth attract youth. The choir should use hymns, rather than anthems, for two reasons. In the first place, appropriate hymns are more likely to move individuals to make decisions for Christ and His Church. In the second place, many persons who would hesitate to sing anthems will gladly assist in a choir using hymns. Also, the choirs should sing usually as a chorus because choral singing deepens the feeling of fellowship. Sometimes the music includes a

church orchestra; and when this is used to glorify God, and not simply to demonstrate skill, it is highly effective.

A well-led hymn-sing is virtually a necessity for a successful Sunday night revival. Lasting about 15 to 20 minutes, it will help to establish an expectant and happy mood. The hymns should be chosen for both their familiarity and their meaning and should help to prepare the people for the altar call climaxing the service. Gospel hymns will revive many stirring memories in the hearts of those who are emotionally and spiritually hungry and so provide the pastor with an opportunity to reach them through the worship.

Sunday Night Altar Service

Some churches have visibly influenced their communities by regularly conducting a Sunday night altar service. In this type of service, following the hymn-sing, the responsive reading, the pastoral prayer, and the special music, all the lights are turned out except one which is focused on the Cross. The pastor then invites to the altar all those who wish to pray for the Church, for their friends, for their families, for themselves. He encourages them to bring their burdens to the Lord and to make intercession for individuals whom they are anxious to see won to Christ's Kingdom. While the people are coming to the chancel, a soloist, seated, sings a simple prayer hymn. While they kneel there, the soloist sings a hymn of consecration. Later, when the invitation to Christian discipleship is extended following an evangelistic sermon, the power of this altar experience makes it easier for the unsaved to respond.

Whichever type of Sunday evening program the pastor and his people choose, however, experience shows that it is still essential to have preaching which is rooted in the gospel and grounded in positive beliefs. Expository sermons relating the Bible to the place where folks live possess an almost irresistible appeal. One minister in Portsmouth, Virginia, who had used a wide variety of approaches to the Sunday evening worship problem, recently stated that a sermon series of simple scriptural narrative brought larger crowds to his sanctuary than any other evening program he had conducted.

An Understandable Faith

In these trying days men and women are anxious to possess an understandable faith. A Sunday evening series of sermons on the eternal promises of God never fails to meet with heartwarming response. People will eagerly attend a series of meetings in which the great doctrines of the Church are made plain.

Sunday night is still one of the most promising evangelistic opportunities your church has.

Fires on the Evening Altars

(Won't you help us to help others rekindle them?)

Said one pastor to his brother pastor, "We're going to 'sweat it out' [the night service]." His friend replied, "I'm not so sure that we will 'sweat,' but we're going to try to give our people enough fuel for their spiritual fires. We hope thus to rekindle many that have gone out." These men represent two points of view concerning night services.

Brother pastor, how are you doing it? What are you doing with your opportunities and ideas concerning such services? Won't you tell us that we may share the story with others through a proposed booklet? Would you be interested in such sharing so that we may share your success with others?

At the close of the day, when the shadows have disappeared and darkness has set in, our people naturally look for renewal of spirit. They search for a continuing religious experience through evening worship, fellowship, study, companionship, and even solitude. They are finding these experiences in churches which make a definite effort to provide for their needs by conducting Sunday night services.

Tell us about the fires on your evening altars. Tell us *how* the contagion of spiritual fervor has spread through lonely hearts to make them vibrate with the renewed strength of Christian purpose. Outline your methods in a letter.

The witness of the printed page, bearing your testimonial of how the evening service is meeting the needs of your people, will be of inestimable worth to other pastors and churches. Won't you share with us that we may share with others? Write to TIDINGS, care of John L. Sandlin.

Evangelism in Action

SUPPLEMENT TO SHEPHERDS

SEPTEMBER, 1953

35,000 Methodists Brave Elements To Attend Rally at Franklin Field

Millsaps Honors Tidings Editor

On June 1 Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi, conferred the doctor of divinity degree upon George H. Jones, Editor of the Tidings Department of the General Board of Evangelism. The honor was awarded in recognition of Dr. Jones' outstanding service in the field of evangelistic journalism. A native of Mississippi, Dr. Jones was elected to the staff of the Board of Evangelism in 1943.

Jones

Another Nashvillian to receive the doctor of divinity degree is Harry C. Spencer, Executive Secretary, the Radio and Film Commission. Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, made the award.

Still another Methodist chosen for this honor is Arthur West, Associate Director of the Commission on Public Relations and Methodist Information of The Methodist Church. Dr. West received the honorary doctorate of divinity from his alma mater, Baker University, Baldwin, Kansas, on June 1.

Rain Fails to Dampen Ardor of Enthusiastic Delegates

More than 35,000 persons sat through a rainy afternoon to attend the mass meeting held June 28 in Philadelphia's Franklin Field as the climax of the three-day World Methodist Convocation of Evangelism commemorating the 250th anniversary of John Wesley's birth.

Thrilling to the singing of the great massed choir which occupied one entire section of the stadium, the crowd was deeply stirred by the forceful message of Dr. Maldwyn L. Edwards, minister of the Central Hall Mission in Birmingham, England. In part, Dr. Edwards declared: "John Wesley lived in an age which was quite content to leave God where He was. It was therefore an age without warmth or light or fire. That wasn't good enough for John Wesley. He desired passionately to link heaven and earth—to bring down the fire.

"Until 1738 he was without an answer. He thought perhaps by prayer, self-discipline, and fasting he could scale the heights of heaven. But no ladder was big enough. On May 24, 1738, he was still a lonely, unsatisfied seeker without light or warmth or fire. Then came the moment which changed history. The seeker became a finder. His heart was strangely warmed, and if his heart caught fire, his mind received light, and his feet found true direction.

"What was the secret which changed Wesley from an earnest, self-tortured, ineffective clergyman into an evangelist who made the world his parish? It was something he found at the very heart of the Christian faith. He discovered the nature of grace.

"Think of the highest height your mind can reach and see Christ in the heavenlies, on an equality with God. Then think of the lowest depth to which your mind can sink —a man nailed on a cross between two thieves. The distance between those points measures the dimensions of God's grace. He gave Himself . . . that is why, in Martin Luther's words, His victory was over sin and death and the devil. Not through any merit of ours but in His grace we are pardoned, healed, restored, and forgiven. The nature of grace is therefore to give.

"When like John Wesley this central truth of the faith hits us with full force, then like him we harness the lightning of heaven. We are more than conquerors. We are new creatures."

A feature of the program was the report (printed on pages 17 and 18) which Bishop W. Angie Smith, president of the Board of Evangelism and chairman of the Convocation, made concerning the World Mission of Evangelism. Bishop Fred P. Corson of Philadelphia presided over the mass meeting at which 1,000 persons were received into the membership of The Methodist Church.

Philadelphia Co

June 26, 27, 28, 1953

Left, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam addresses the Convocation.

Right, Convention Hall, scene of the Convocation.

Center left, Section on Social Order discusses evangelism and world problems. This is one of seven sections meeting separately to consider specific areas of evangelism.

World Methodist Convocation of Evangelism
June 26-28 1953
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Lower left, a portion of the nearly 6,000 delegates who attended sessions of the Convocation at Convention Hall.

Lower right, Dr. Harry Denman describing the purpose of the World Methodist Evangelism Movement.

ocation

Above, Miss Eleanor Best, new member of The Methodist Church of Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, receives Special Membership Certificate No. 1 in the World Mission Goal of 250,000 new members.

Below, Those who received the first 14 Special Certificates of Membership in the World Mission.

Below, Bishop Fred P. Corson receives the 1000 new members presented to the Church at the Franklin Field Mass Meeting, climaxing the Convocation.

During the sessions, children of delegates enjoyed themselves in the nursery.

Shown in St. George's Church with Bishop W. Angie Smith, Chairman of the Convocation, are, left to right, Rev. A. W. Cliffe, pastor, Bishop J. W. E. Bowen, Bishop Smith, Dr. Elmer T. Clark, and Bishop Arthur J. Moore, who brought the message of the morning.

Left, Tickets for overflow Sunday services at St. George's Church were distributed during the week by smiling young ladies in Colonial costume. Preacher for the morning was Bishop Arthur J. Moore. Right, Dr. Maldwyn L. Edwards addresses 35,000 persons at Franklin Field Mass Meeting.

Order Blank for *SPECIAL CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP*

World Mission of Evangelism
1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tenn.

Friends:

Please count us in on the great task of winning **250,000 Persons for Christ and His Church on Profession of Faith** during 1953, beginning on Pentecost-Aldersgate Sunday, May 24.

Please send me a Special Certificate of Membership, serially numbered, for each of the following persons. I definitely know that each of them has been received into our church on Profession of Faith on or after Sunday, May 24, 1953, or will be within the next few weeks.

Enclosed please find 2¢ for each name (stamps acceptable) to partially cover the cost of printing and handling the certificates.

I expect to send you other names and requests for Special Certificates from time to time during 1953.

Faithfully yours,

(signed) _____ Pastor

Address _____

Charge _____ District _____ Conference _____ Jurisdiction _____

Number of names furnished herewith _____

Amount enclosed (in cash or stamps) at 2¢ per name _____

Persons Received on Profession of Faith

	Name	Address
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

(Attach another sheet for additional names)

CORRECTION

On page 18 of this issue of SHEPHERDS the souvenir booklet containing the addresses delivered at the World Methodist Convocation of Evangelism is inadvertently listed at 35¢ per copy, 3 copies for $1.00. This is an error which was discovered too late for correction in the body of the magazine. The correct price of the souvenir booklet is 50¢ per copy.

THE WORLD MISSION OF EVANGELISM

A Report Presented by Bishop W. Angie Smith at the Climactic Service of the World Convocation of Evangelism in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1953

WE reverently stand in the recognition of a great historical fact, the birth of John Wesley two hundred and fifty years ago. The succeeding centuries have made this one of the world's outstanding contributions to civilization, to moral and spiritual development. It is an occurrence in the long span of the years to call forth a celebration of more than six thousand of the leaders of Methodism at home and abroad for three days in a climactic Convocation, and for this mighty throng of multiplied tens of thousands in this massive stadium.

More Than a Celebration

Were he able to speak to us today, John Wesley would be one of the very first to say the celebration of an event even as important as his birth could not be justified in time and expense if this were all the meaning to our meeting. While joining in loud and genuine praise and thanksgiving for his birth, and without any desire to minimize its sacred and institutional significance, let us not forget that the sunset of yesterday is past, the noon hour of a new day is here, and we look with hope and expectancy to that tomorrow when the love of God will encircle the globe, when man shall cease to study war and peoples shall live together in harmony and eternal peace; yes, when even the nations of the world shall become the Kingdom of God on earth.

To reach such an ideal calls for more than a celebration. It can only be won on the cross of sacrifice and in the united hearts of consecration on the part of each of us. We do not believe we have the final and complete word on the challenge of a world mission of evangelism. We must first be certain that those of us who are to evangelize have really found an acceptable entrance into the Kingdom of God. The heart-warming experience of John Wesley must not remain encased in the tomb of more than two centuries of history, to be admired and honored, but must become the reality each of us has as a very distinct personal experience. When we have entered into this new joy we must share with all the world that which the Holy Spirit has poured upon us. Personal experience and consecrated commitment must unite in each of us to become that power which is beyond price and can only be received as a gift from God.

Our hearts are stirred, our minds are thrilled, by increasing reports of equal zeal in lands beyond the seas and south of the border as Methodists the world over, of every race and speech, are joining hands and voices to march forward and shout triumphantly that the year of jubilee is at hand. A mighty and militant Church is girding herself for victories never yet known and for advances nearer to the ideal of the Kingdom of Heaven.

An Invitation to Evangelize

We as Methodists graciously and in a spirit of sincere humility invite every evangelical Church to join forces with us to face the common task in the tremendous responsibility and glorious privilege of winning America and all the peoples of the world to Christ. We have not reached that place, nor the time, when we can become one Church. We *are* able to organize, agonize, and evangelize to enable us to work in perfect harmony and in unity of the spirit to win the world for Christ. This is an invitation for counsel among all who name the name of Christ to join with the forces of Methodism in a simultaneous campaign for evangelism through all methods to reach America for God.

We do not believe we occupy the supreme position of being the only ones called of God to make a contribution to the spiritual pilgrimage of mankind. Fully cognizant of our own shortcomings, and almost bewildered by the immensity of the task, we as Methodists invite all evangelical Churches in America to unite with us in an invitation for the chosen men and women of God from nations beyond our borders and over the seas, men and women of different colors and at times those whose speech is strange to us, to come to our nation in great preaching missions to give to us the benefit of their consecration and the revelation of Christ in their lives of sacrifice and service. We in America have much to learn; and, while we have been most generous in our gifts, we must recognize the need of receiving that which Christ can give to us through those of younger and possibly more understanding Churches. India, Latin America, the Orient, Africa, Europe, and the Isles of the Seas can send to us those whose messages can be the avenues down which we all travel nearer to God.

We must not lose sight of nor interest in the multiplied hundreds of thousands of our own flesh and blood who, in their young and formative years, wear the uniform of our country. We look upon them with pride as the flower of our youth and must be certain that the Methodist ministry recruit men of the finest and noblest ability and character to follow our boys wherever they go. One of the richest and most needy fields of evangelism is in our armed forces. The Church must say to the chaplain: "You have the spiritual force of a united Church at home to insure your greatest work in the field."

No cry is louder than that of the broken and disrupted home in America, caused, to a very large degree, by the lack of moral and spiritual foundations. No nation can rise higher than the spiritual life of its families. We gird ourselves as warriors for the fray as we

go forth in the name of God to redeem the family life of America for God and His Church.

Our Supreme Task

This commitment to the ideal of the coming of God's Kingdom is not limited to ministers or to laymen, to young or to old, nor to race or color. We are all called to God to be co-laborers with Him in this supreme task. It is, therefore, the sacred responsibility of Area, Conference, District, and local church officers to organize the church on each of these levels for simultaneous evangelistic campaigns for the strengthening of the faith of their own people and to win a minimum of two hundred fifty thousand new converts to Christ. This can be done when every natural and normal method of approach has been used. We are concerned that those methods which have proven effective shall be continued, but we readily recognize that there is a very great need for both mass and personal evangelism in this day. We believe we must have greater concern about motives and be certain that whatever method is used is in tune with the Infinite.

These are matters of grave importance we cannot let escape our attention. We cannot let the detail of life's demands choke off the living spirit of God's truth. Ministers must preach the Word. They must preach it with Biblical accuracy and with spirit-filled interpretation. They must preach it with the authority and conviction of one who knows from personal experience what it means to be born again. They must preach as those who have heard God's voice through the miracle and mystery of prayer. They must preach as God's men, unafraid to deliver His message with urgency to a sin-sick world whose only hope lies in hearing, in believing, and in acting upon the Word of the Lord. They must declare, without fear or favor, that salvation is not only *from* sin but *for* service. The minister must organize in every church the Commission on Membership and Evangelism to be the means through which he labors to larger spiritual goals.

A Challenge to Laymen

The laymen must accept a challenge equally as valid and certainly as important as that of the minister. Whether he be a church school teacher or not, every Methodist should be sobered by the startling fact that three out of four young people have no Church relationship; and, of more than two million students in America, 40 per cent are not in any Church. We rejoice in the sane and very aggressive program of evangelism now in active development by our own young people. They will receive from the Church not only encouragement but our complete cooperation to win American young people for Christ. The women have given a real challenge to the Church at large with the program to evangelize the womanhood of America. To reach them fully for God will lay the foundation for a Christian home life for tomorrow.

In the midst of the recognition of all facts as they actually appear in America regarding needs and sins, let us not forget that God has been good to us and under His divine leadership we have won more people to Christ through the United Evangelistic Missions than in any other way. This is an avenue down which we can all walk toward the City of God and share with others what He has done for our souls.

The hour has struck. The clarion call from God is clear. The need is before us. We, under God's power, are equal to the task. Will we let these days and the great messages we have heard from the Throne of Grace be the means of calling each of us in his own local field to a deeper and richer commitment to the command of Christ for world-wide evangelism?

If this be done, we will be true to our heritage and aware of the need of the future. For when education, social service, missions, philanthropy, and all other agencies for good have consecrated their all to the task of winning the world for Christ, then the ideal as set by John Wesley will have been realized and our celebration of his birth will become a spiritual consecration to his dreams and ringing response to God's command when each and all will say, "Here am I, send me."

AVAILABLE *Soon!*

AN ATTRACTIVE, ILLUSTRATED BOOK
CONTAINING THE ADDRESSES DELIVERED AT

The World Methodist Convocation of Evangelism

in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 26-28, 1953

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Others may obtain the book at 35c per copy, 3 copies for $1.00
Not ready before August 15

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BEAUTIFUL JOHN WESLEY MEDALLION

This gold medallion, pendant upon a rich purple ribbon, carries a likeness of Methodism's founder, John Wesley. Struck especially for the 250th Anniversary of Wesley's birth, the medallion is a permanent memento of one of Methodism's most historic events.

Order now before the supply is exhausted. $1.00 each. Write to:

Dr. Joseph H. Edge, Registrar
World Methodist Convocation of Evangelism
1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee

Broadmeadow Methodist Church

Church Extension

IN THE JACKSON DISTRICT

by

Brunner M. Hunt

Superintendent, Jackson District

Mississippi Conference

THE daring pioneer spirit which has characterized Methodism since the Colonial days is still alive! It has been manifest in the hearts and lives of the men and women of the Jackson District as they have dared to pioneer in new congregations and new charges.

The District has experienced phenomenal growth in the past six years. At that time there were 38 charges. Now there are 49 charges, of which four are brand-new congregations within the city limits of Jackson, a city of 100,000 population. Twenty-six new parsonages have been built during this period. Fifteen of these have been places which had not provided for a resident pastor before this time. The building of these new and modern homes is a fascinating story in itself!

A Co-operative Program

The united effort of all the churches in the District, directed through the Jackson District Board of Missions, has met with unusual success. Not a single proposed project has failed! No one church or pastor has undertaken any project independently; but altogether we have worked for all sections of the District, urban and rural.

Patience and sympathetic understanding of deep-seated sentiment is required in separating the churches on a circuit of long standing. It has paid off, however, in growing rural sections of the District. It is dramatic to establish churches in new subdivisions or unchurched areas and then watch them develop day by day. "To take the church to the people" was the thought in our minds as we saw new houses going up, miles from any established Methodist church.

But how does one begin? Each of the four churches presented its own particular challenge and its own problem. No two of them were alike. Each had to be handled in a different manner; but there were, nevertheless, similarities and, as a consequence, the over-all plan was the same.

Months before anything was done, a seed was casually dropped in the minds of one or two in the community as to the wish of the people to have a church there. We have always found Methodist people concerned for their spiritual welfare. Before long someone would ask if there had been any developments in the planning for a church in his area.

The next step has been to plan for a time and place for a get-together to ascertain whether or not there was enough interest to warrant our labors.

In our first project we ran an advertisement in the paper, saying that those interested in a Methodist church in that particular community would have a meeting. Usually, however, the "grapevine" spread the word that the meeting would be held in a certain home. Much depends on having this first meeting in the home of one who is vitally interested and who has possibilities of leadership in the church and the community. We have never been disappointed in these meetings. Of course, there would be only a few persons to attend the initial meeting. One time there were 22; another, only five. But those who came were in earnest and were willing to get under the load.

Need for a Survey

At this stage a survey of some kind was needed to find out just how many Methodists were really in the community. We have been fortunate to have Millsaps College in our city; and twice the ministerial group from this school has helped to take a partial survey to give us enough prospects for a start. In another situation a retired minister made the partial survey. In still another, members of the interested group did it themselves.

Our college has helped in yet another way. The ministerial students often served as pastors in the early stages of church growth. Until the congregation was able to take on a full-time pastor. Members of the faculty from the department of religion were also helpful in filling pulpits. The Conference Board of Evangelism has given support and provided someone to preach in one of the new churches.

After getting this far, the question now was: "Where do we meet?" How often that is the "sixty-four-dollar question." Private homes were soon outgrown, for these new groups have a vigor that demands adaquate space for development. After searching desperately, sometimes for days, God has opened a way, so that our groups have never missed a single service after being formally organized. One time the people met in a store building which was suddenly and unexpectedly vacated. Another group used a house which the owner provided free of rent for an entire winter. Another church held services in an old army barracks which was reworked by the members and used for several months. Still another time a sister denomination allowed our people the use of their building in the afternoon.

Obtaining the Essentials

But that is only the beginning. The experience of developing new churches is like that of a young couple who have just started housekeeping. The things which we take for granted are missing. There is not a hymnbook, not a chair, not a collection plate, not even a pulpit. There is nothing except a young preacher, a place to meet, and an indomitable spirit which says, "For the sake of immortal souls, we are going to have a church in this community." God has blessed His people, and their needs have been met in unexpected ways.

Everyone was happy to buy one hymnbook and use it as a memorial. "We thought we might have to sit on orange crates, but Galloway Memorial Church let us have these old pews. Aren't they nice?" The last word, however, is the piano! "We really did not expect to have it so soon, and doesn't it make our service worshipful?"

Encouragement was given to the small group as it began to plan for a permanent building with the support of all the churches in the District through the Board of Missions. Overwhelmed by the magnitude of the task and the amount of money needed before they could be on a permanent, self-supporting basis, the groups received courage and a feeling of stability as they saw the keen interest of the other churches. When necessary, the Board has given pastoral support for a limited time. At other times, it has helped to purchase a building site. In every instance, it has given substantial sums over a period of two or three years toward a permanent building. As the congregations have proved that they were on solid foundations, each has received limited help from the General Board of Missions and the Conference Board of Missions.

Splendid Example

Broadmeadow, the first church organized, has set a splendid example of what can be done. Organized three-and-one-half years ago, it now has its first unit, an educational building, dedicated and free of debt. It is planning a beautiful sanctuary and larger church school facilities for its constantly growing congregation. The membership is now 400, with attendance at church school over 250. There is a lovely parsonage, and the congregation is entirely self-supporting, carrying on the full program of the Church—an inspiration to all who work with them. Each of the other congregations is making similar progress, though the youngest group is just getting into the building program.

Pastor Important

Much of the success of these undertakings depends on the pastor who is appointed as the first full-time minister. Bishop Marvin Franklin has entered heartily into the plans for securing the very finest young men in our Conference for these new congregations, and each pastor has measured up to the responsibility and challenge thus presented to him. Through their untiring efforts as they rang doorbells, studied the talents of their people, and planned sermons fitted to the needs of their particular group, these men have advanced the work as God has blessed their efforts. Each of them will testify that it is a Herculean task, taking all their strength and enthusiasm, but one which is rewarding and satisfying.

To put it on paper makes the work sound simple and easy, but it is not! Despite months of careful planning, unexpected problems present themselves. There are restrictive covenants which delay and limit the building site. Sometimes those whom we expected to be adequate leaders fail at a critical moment. The "growing pains" are inevitable in any new venture as people learn to work together and true leaders emerge. At times we wondered if it were worth all the time, thought, study, planning, and prayer that went into it. But time has amply justified the effort.

These new churches are among the most rewarding experiences of my life. The sight of these lovely new buildings, with their spires pointing heavenward as they nestle in the heart of a growing community, is a tribute to the evangelistic and pioneering spirit of Methodism. There will always be a glow in my heart for the privilege of having had a part in helping to advance the cause of Christ through these new churches—a glow which I believe will last through eternity.

Right, Boling Street Methodist Church, formally opened March 22, 1953. Below left, Delta Drive Methodist Church. The pastor, E. R. Dickerson, and his family are shown in front of the building. Below right, Bishop Marvin Franklin breaking ground for the new Alta Woods Church.

Techniques for an Effective Community Survey

by C. Ralph Arthur, Executive Secretary
Commission on Town and Country Work
Virginia Conference

THE social scientists have given the Church a technique of survey and research which can be used effectively in church extension to spot communities where new churches are needed and to locate areas where churches will be needed in the future. The most effective church extension will be based on adequate research and survey. Such studies prevent mistakes in the location of churches and the selection of lots. In addition, the survey reveals facts which can guide existing churches in planning programs to serve their communities more effectively.

A Decade of Rural Surveys

The Commission on Town and Country Work of the Virginia Conference has been doing survey work in rural communities for the past 10 years in an effort to find areas where new churches are needed and to find means for strengthening existing churches. This Commission has given assistance and supervision in urban communities in Virginia only because no other agencies were available at the time when these studies were made. The survey of the Peninsula Area of Tidewater Virginia, which had doubled in population from 1940 to 1950, is the largest urban survey in which the Commission has been involved. Consequently, it is the one which will be used for illustrative purposes in this article. Six new churches have been established in the Peninsula Area as a result of this survey.

The first approach to making a study for the location of new churches was to enlist the help of specialists employed by The Methodist Church for this purpose. We were not able to engage the specialists with the Board of Missions, but we were fortunate in securing Douglas Jackson, of Emory University, who gave counsel and guidance while the study was being made. He also analyzed the data which was collected. In addition, Emory University assigned a student, W. B. Jones, to assist in the collection of data. The survey could not have been made except for the work which he did.

There may be times when no outside help can be secured because, as yet, our Church does not have a large enough number of research and survey specialists. However, this should not prevent an adequate study before locating churches. A Conference Agency or a District Board of Missions, with some guidance and advice, can make the study. The purpose of this article is to outline the steps that were involved in the survey of the Peninsula Area. We hope that it may guide other groups anticipating the study of their communities.

Mapping the Area

The first step was to map the whole area to be studied. This involved two cities and two counties. The cities and counties were divided into their logical communities. Boundary lines were drawn on the map to designate these communities. Maps for this purpose were obtained from the State Department of Highways, the local and State Chambers of Commerce, the local planning agency, and the local real estate board. After examining enough maps, we selected the best and largest ones to serve as the master maps for the whole area.

The boundaries of the community were determined with the advice of local officials, who readily recognized the social, political, cultural, economic, and geographical boundaries. The Extension Service of the U.S.D.A. furnished community maps for rural areas. This simplified our job. The master maps gave a complete and comprehensive picture

Picture at top of page:
An aerial view of a new community just outside Washington, D.C. This community is a part of an area in which 30,000 people live. There is no church.

Left, Rev. C. Ralph Arthur, Executive Secretary of the Commission on Town and Country Work of the Virginia Conference, and Rev. W. B. Jones, Associate Director of the Peninsula Area Survey, planning the religious census and survey of the Peninsula Area with the area Board of Missions and Church Extension. Right, two interviewers looking at the maps used in planning a rural church survey in Amherst County, Virginia.

of the whole territory. A detailed study revealed many factors which needed to be examined.

The second step was a study of the population statistics for the area, over a period of years. These statistics were collected for each of the census years from 1900 through 1950. The statistics revealed the growth or the various communities in the area. The population, according to the 1950 census, was then located within the various communities.

The Census Bureau furnished small maps of given areas with the census districts marked and numbered. The Bureau also furnished a table listing the population for each of the marked districts. The exact number of people for each community of the whole territory can be determined and located on the master map.

Much of this material was not available when the Peninsula study was made; consequently, we had to attempt a thorough religious census of the whole area. This is much too detailed and tedious to do in an area as large as the Peninsula. The census is used later in communities which seem ready for new churches. The population can be located just as easily by the method mentioned above. This data will also give the density of the population within a given area and will help show how thickly settled the community may be. This is an important factor in the establishment of churches.

Temporary or Permanent?

The third step was to make a prediction of the potential of the various communities in the area. These were made with the assistance of State Sociologists who had been studying the area and with the help of local officials. We were able to tell which communities were likely to be temporary and which were likely to be permanent. We were also able to determine which communities would probably grow. The real estate board had data available concerning future developments which were being planned. The map, the population statistics, and the predictions furnished a complete picture of the communities of the area.

Study Characteristics

The fourth step was to make a study of the characteristics of the population within given communities. The census data was invaluable here, since it was broken down according to age and sex as well as by race. A pyramid chart was made, showing the distribution of the population by age and sex. Additional data was collected, giving some indices concerning the economic level of the communities as well as showing whether or not the housing was temporary or permanent. This information helped the Peninsula Board of Church Extension, which sponsored the study, to determine whether or not the establishment of new churches in given communities was wise. The information also helped to determine something of the potential to which the new churches might grow.

Fifth, we made a statistical analysis of the Methodist churches in the whole area over the same period of years covered by the population statistics. This analysis included a pyramid chart of Methodist church membership by age and sex. The analysis also included some data concerning the financial giving of the members and, in some instances, an analysis of the leadership and programs of the existing churches. This data was compared with the population statistics on each of the census years. From the comparison we were able to determine in what decades Methodist membership followed the trend of the population. We could tell whether the Church was growing or declining at the same proportion.

The last decade of the study was the most interesting. The population had doubled and the Methodist membership in many areas had increased at the same rate. However, there were other areas where this was not true. These comparative statistics enabled us to investigate the reasons; and, in some instances, we found that there were not enough churches to take care of the number of people involved. Consequently, new churches were necessary.

A comparison of age and sex pyramid for the church population and the church membership gave some indication of the degree of effectiveness in which the churches were reaching specific age and sex groupings. This information helped the existing churches review their programs objectively and plan to strengthen the weak spots.

Charts and forms for these various analyses are available from many of our Methodist theological schools and from the Board of Missions. Guidance in the use of these materials can also be obtained from the same sources. In addition to helping in the location of new churches, the comparative study of statistics can assist existing churches to evaluate the service rendered.

Locate Churches

Sixth, we located all Methodist churches in each of the communities on the master map. We also located churches of other denominations. We were able to determine from the location of the churches how well Methodist churches were distributed throughout the whole territory and how many people were in the various communities which they served.

Armed with the population data and other facts about the many communities in the territory, we were able to select areas which seemed likely as communities needing new churches. The unchurched communities were recognized immediately. We then applied some tests which are recommended by social scientists. For example, we knew that in new communities, if there were 400 homes that appeared to be permanent and no church at all, there were good prospects for the establishment of a Methodist church. In a community where there are as many as 600 homes and only one other church, we knew that a Methodist church was likely to thrive.

Relative Distances

We also had the recommendations of social scientists relative to the distances which should exist between churches. We knew that social scientists recommended that in no case should Methodist churches be closer than one mile in the city. There are some who feel that they should not be closer than one and a half to two miles. We knew that this could not apply in rural communities, especially in those that were not thickly populated. We had set our distances a little higher for those areas, depending on the density of the population.

Seventh, we made a spot membership map of the membership being served by the existing churches in communities where new churches seemed to be needed. This was done by making a dot on the maps at each home where Methodists lived. The rural and urban maps which we used had most of the homes marked. We simply had to color those where Methodists lived. These spot membership maps helped us to determine how many people of a community were being served by nearby Methodist churches. These maps pointed out to us those areas where Methodism was not serving the people at all. Naturally, they were areas where new churches were needed.

In one or two communities we found the Methodists to be such a small proportion of the population that a new church was not justified, although there seemed to be enough people all together. In other places we found the number of Methodists in proportion to the number of population to be exceedingly high and knew that Methodism had opportunities in those areas.

The eighth step was to mark off the communities where there were no Methodist churches as well as to mark off those communities where the church was not giving adequate coverage. Many of the communities were new, and we had no difficulty in locating them. These were the communities where we had to find the Methodist people if new churches were to be organized. This we did by the religious census, and this is the only plan of which we know for making this kind of study. Through the religious census we were able to verify whether or not there were enough Methodist people in a given area for a new church.

The most ideal technique which can be used in the study of these new communities is the religious census, as recommended by the General Board of Evangelism. The Board has perfected materials and instructions which are excellent for this as well as for finding prospects in old communities. The tabulation of census cards revealed to us where churches should be established. It also listed the names and addresses of prospective members who were later contacted and organized into congregations in several areas.

Studying the Data

The last step was to study the data in an effort to determine the proper location of new churches. We had located the general areas where churches were needed. Now we wanted to locate the specific sites. We followed the advice of the Board of Church Extension in trying to select sites that were on main thoroughfares and preferably at the center of the community. We tried to pick lots that were large enough and high enough to provide advantageous locations. We found the advice of local officials helpful in determining the directions in which future population growth might be expected and in determining the major center of the communities where we wanted to put churches. We would recommend that assistance be secured from the Board of Church Extension when the location of churches is actually begun. The Board has specialists who can advise and counsel in matters of location.

Our experience in the Peninsula survey and others leads the author to say that the most desirable way to begin a study of a community is to secure the services of trained personnel within our Church to make these studies for

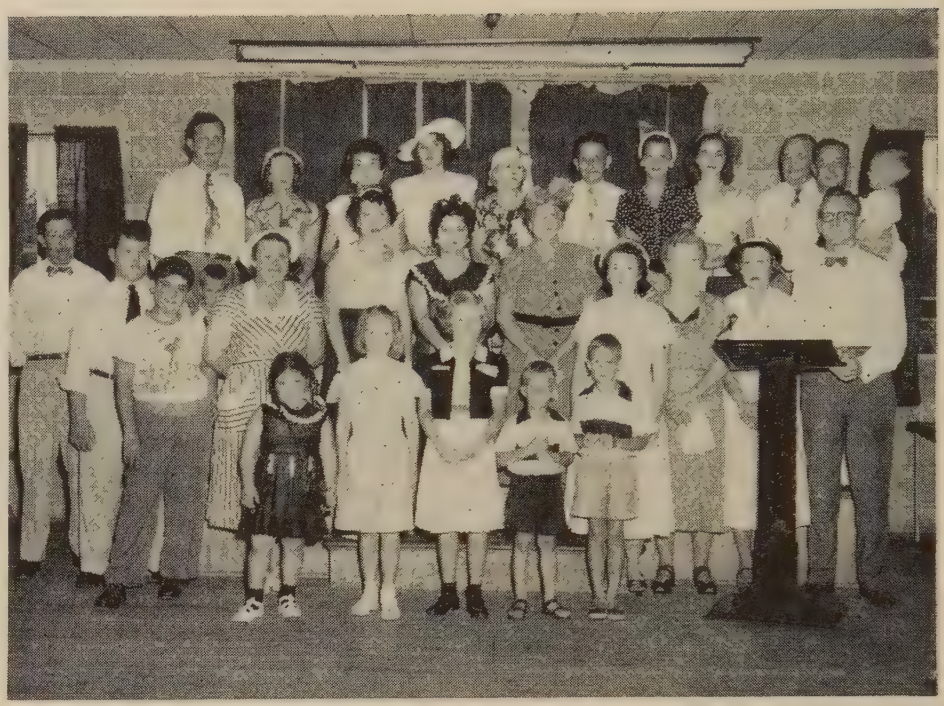
Left, Rev. C. Ralph Arthur, Executive Secretary of the Commission of Town and Country Work of the Virginia Conference, points out strategic areas for church extension in the Peninsula Area to members of the Peninsula Area Board of Missions and Church Extension. Left to right, Rev. E. E. Renn; Mr. A. L. White, Chairman; Rev. W. E. Wilkerson; Mr. Arthur; Mr. Frank Beard; Rev. H. H. Fink; and Rev. W. B. Jones, student Associate Director of the Survey. Right, Rev. W. B. Jones, student at Emory University and Associate Director of the Peninsula Area Survey, with his assistants, tabulating the data collected in the religious census.

us. They have the techniques, experience, and materials needed for this kind of work. The men with our Board of Missions and with our seminaries are doing a magnificent job in this field.

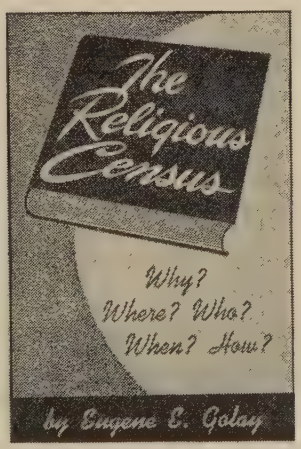
When the services of these agencies are not available, some Conference Agency or District Board may well go ahead to make the studies necessary, provided some counsel or instruction can be obtained from our trained personnel. In fact, it would be well for every Conference to have some agency sufficiently briefed on the methods of survey and research so that studies could be made by Conference and District personnel when the occasions arise.

A Rewarding Work

The work is time consuming but most rewarding. Through the use of research and survey, we can be sure that the present expansion of Methodism is done wisely and efficiently. We can also be in a position to anticipate future expansion before the need becomes acute and before the areas have been overchurched by other denominations.



Members of Buckroe Beach Methodist Church, organized as a result of the Peninsula Survey. Rev. W. B. Jones, student associate from Emory University, organized the church. The church is now well established and ready to begin building.



To Win Your Prospects

You Must Know Where They Are!

"THE RELIGIOUS CENSUS"

by Eugene E. Golay

10c each; 7 for 50c

A practical, descriptive booklet outlining the most effective ways of taking your census. For pastors and members of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism. A *must* for successful planning. (In the Religious Census Packet but available separately.)

The Religious Census Packet

(For the Friendly Community Study or Religious Census)

Each Packet contains sufficient materials to conduct the Religious Census in each size community listed below.

500 population—Packet 1 Price,	$ 2.50	2,500 population—Packet 6 Price,	11.00
750 population—Packet 2 Price,	3.75	3,000 population—Packet 7 Price,	13.00
1,000 population—Packet 3 Price,	5.00	4,000 population—Packet 8 Price,	17.00
1,500 population—Packet 4 Price,	7.00	5,000 population—Packet 9 Price,	21.00
2,000 population—Packet 5 Price,	9.00		

1908 Grand Avenue TIDINGS Nashville 5, Tennessee

Pastor Has Threefold Responsibility To the Men in Military Service

How can the local church meet its threefold responsibility to the men in the military services? This question is bound to be increasingly in the minds of ministers and laymen as they come to realize that whether we like it or not the United States will have three million young men under arms for a number of years to come. Not only is the military service a likelihood for the boys in the Youth Fellowship, but also for those in the Intermediate Department as well.

Because of his recent contact with chaplains in the Far East on his trip to Korea and Japan, Dr. J. Manning Potts, Editor of THE UPPER ROOM, is keenly aware of their problems. More to the point, he is deeply concerned with the lack of awareness shown by so many local churches. In a recent open letter to churches on this problem, he pointed out that most men overseas say they seldom if ever hear from their home church. In response to the 87,000 copies of the letter that went to pastors and church leaders, hundreds of replies have been received. They express appreciation that the matter has been called to their attention and indicate that they will do something more in the future than they have done in the past.

To help focus the attention of the local church on the problem, Dr. Potts invited General C. I. Carpenter, Chief of Chaplains of the United States Air Force, to meet in Nashville with a dozen of the Staff members of the Boards of Education and Evangelism. General Carpenter spent four hours in discussion with a group that represented the various departments of the Division of Local Church, Division of Educational Institutions, the Editorial Division of the Board of Education, the National Conference of Methodist Youth, the Board of Evangelism, and THE UPPER ROOM. General Carpenter pointed out that a million young men a year are entering the armed services. On the basis of religious preference indicated, it seems that at least 12 per cent are Methodist or of Methodist background. Thus 120,000 young men of Methodist preference are entering the armed forces each year, and a total of 360,000 are continuously in the service.

Certainly the church is concerned with the young men before they enter the service. These boys are in the youth division, probably the Methodist Youth Fellowship. How can the local church prepare them to meet the problems and the experiences of military life? The church can expect the military services to do something for their boys in a spiritual way, but boys' character and habits have likely been pretty definitely set in the eighteen or nineteen years before they enter the armed services. The church, too, is concerned with the boys that are coming back from the military services each year—approximately one million of them. This is more than the total number of boys graduating annually from our high schools and colleges. What plans have we for intergrading them into our organizations, our church school, our activities?

As Chaplain Carpenter sees it, the church has a threefold responsibility to the men in the service. First, it has the responsibility for boys of its own constituency wherever they are serving. It has the responsibility to keep in touch with them, to make them realize that they are continually in the prayers, hearts, and thoughts of the home church. This cannot be done simply by an occasional form letter. A definite working program needs to be established.

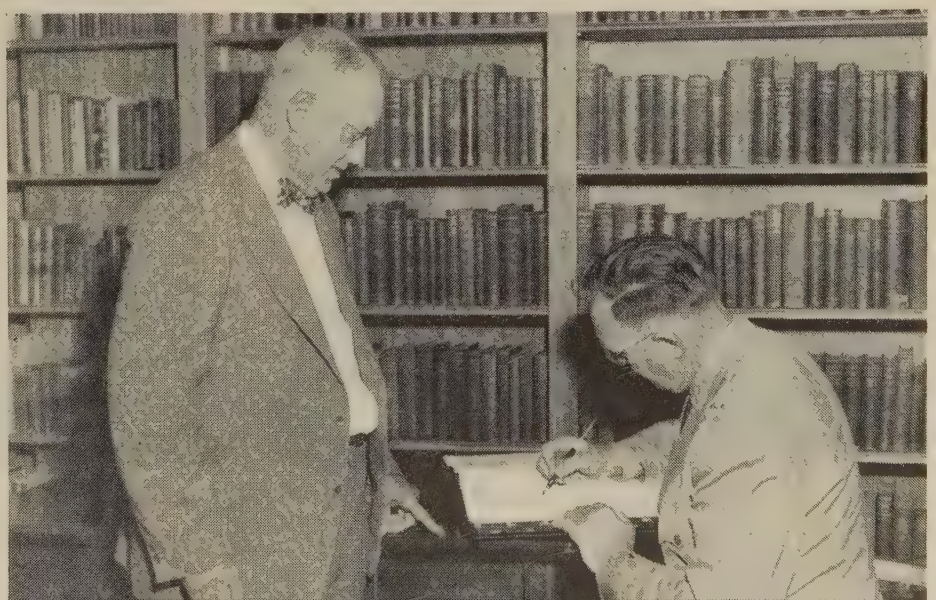
The local church, too, has a responsibility for the men in nearby military establishments. Obviously, the church adjacent to an army camp cannot satisfy all the spiritual needs of all of the men of that denomination stationed there, but it can do something, and it can get the help and effective co-operation of other nearby churches. It is a sad commentary on our churches to note how little they do to welcome the servicemen from the nearby camps and fields compared with the hearty welcome given by taverns, honky tonks, and similar establishments. Cities near military establishments are accustomed to see hundreds of young boys roaming the streets on week-ends, not all of them in uniform as the service regulations do not require them to stay in uniform while they are off duty. Most of them are anxious to wear civilian clothes when they can.

The local church also has some responsibility to the chaplains in the military service who are trying to serve the boys. The chaplain has quite a different problem today than he had during World War II when military service was highly patriotic and "nothing was too good for the boys." Most of these servicemen today are younger than were their brothers of ten years ago. They are not enthralled by a great feeling of patriotism and service. They are simply carrying out a disagreeable task with little public support or interest.

Every church needs to study the problem. Every church can appoint a committee to get an effective program under way. It is a part of the youth program or the young adult program. It may not be spectacular, but it is vital to the very life of the church, for in the next ten years every church will have a large portion of its young men face to face with these problems.

The Woman's Society, the Youth Department, the Men's Club, the MYF—all are concerned. *All* should do something.

General C. I. Carpenter (right), Chief of Chaplains of the United States Air Force, with J. Manning Potts, Editor of *The Upper Room*.



For All Children

Faith in God

(The illustrations are from the film described in this article)

"For All Children Faith in God" is the theme for Christian Education Week, September 27-October 4. It is hoped that every local church will give special attention during this week to considering the need of its children and how the church may bring each of these boys and girls to know and respond to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

To Help Local Churches

To help local churches face their responsibility for ministering to the boys and girls of their community and for reaching out to the unchurched, a new motion picture entitled "For Every Child," has been developed. This film, available in both black-and-white and color, shows a typical church situation in which a local congregation is surrounded by all sorts of children with all sorts of differing home backgrounds and needs. In this particular church, a young man and wife are asked to take the responsibility for teaching a group of boys and girls. They offer all the usual excuses but finally agree to substitute in a class for one Sunday. When they actually meet the boys and girls, hear their questions, and become aware of their needs, the young couple see the opportunity which they have been turning down.

The discouragements, the hard work, the rewards as they help the children in the group and gradually bring into the group neglected children on the outside are portrayed in a convincing and moving fashion.

The film is produced professionally, but under the supervision of a committee from the National Council of Churches. It combines, therefore, technical excellence with a sound presentation of the need for a strong, outgoing, effective program of Christian nurture to seek and to save every child.

The film runs for just under a half hour and is suitable for use with Sunday evening Fellowship groups, midweek meetings, men's classes, women's classes, woman's societies, men's clubs, and young people's groups. It will provide an excellent background for a discussion of the responsibility of the church for extending its ministry to those outside its fellowship and for making more vital its ongoing program with children and youth. It suggests specific ways in which this program can be made more vital and is so presented that the viewers will find it interesting, stirring, and challenging.

Prints of the film may be rented from The Methodist Publishing House serving your territory: black-and-white, $8.00; color, $12.00. It will be available for showing beginning September 27, 1953.

For additional resources for the observance of Christian Education Week in the local church and in the community, write to the Division of the Local Church, General Board of Education, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee.

The Board of Hospitals and Homes Offers Inspiration in Its

"Good Health Series"

THE Board of Hospitals and Homes of The Methodist Church, leader in the field of health and welfare on the highest possible Christian and scientific standards, is daily promoting the attitude of good health in every aspect: mental, physical, and spiritual. Prominent among its publications which lend inspiration to the sick in mind, body, or spirit, is the "Good Health Series," which gives in concise and attractive booklet form, aids for securing and maintaining a happy existence, though ill.

"Strength for Hospital Days," although not one of the series, is a well-prepared booklet containing sixteen pages of devotional readings for hospital patients. In simple and stimulating style, it offers daily readings of comfort to those who are confined to their beds. Many pastors and chaplains find this booklet of particular use in calling on their sick.

Seven booklets make up the "Series," and all of these are especially well written and significantly adapted to the needs of those seeking stimulation. "Be Still and Know" is a 15-page booklet used as an aid to spiritual life and physical health. "Parents and the Sick Child" offers understanding to parents whose children are ill. "The Hygiene of Faith" gives helpful suggestions for health of body and mind as they work together for good to those who love God. "Walking Toward the Light" is an aid to those whose Christian faith has given them understanding.

"The Art of Growing Older," another of the series, helps those persons in their later years to share in Godly Strength. "Forward With Courage" provides strength for the days of weariness and anxiety, a guide for bringing religious faith to bear upon the problems of daily life.

The latest of the series, "Meeting Life's Wrenching Changes," is an excellent treatment of the subject, offering helps for facing life courageously when the inevitable changes come.

All of these booklets are available for five cents each, or $4.00 per hundred copies, by writing to The Board of Hospitals and Homes of The Methodist Church, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

So important is the emphasis on health and welfare during our present age, and so noticeable is the national interest, that we as a Church—The Methodist Church—cannot be found lacking in the interest and activity which we show in this great human concern.

The Second National Conference on Family Life

by Edward D. Staples

Department of the Christian Family, General Board of Education

THE Second National Conference on Family Life will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 8-10, 1954. Dr. Harry Denman of the Board of Evangelism is chairman of the Committee on Promotion for this conference. The general chairman is Bishop Hazen G. Werner. In each Annual Conference there will be a committee composed of the following persons: the Executive Secretary of the Board of Education, two District Superintendents appointed by the cabinet, the chairman of the Conference Board of Education, the president of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, the Secretary of Evangelism, the Conference Lay Leader, the Conference Directors of Children's Work, Youth Work, and Adult Work, and experts in the field of family life. This committee is responsible for studying the family life emphasis in the Annual Conference and planning for those activities, between now and the fall of 1954, which will strengthen family life within the conference.

It is also the responsibility of the Planning Committee to conduct a study on one of the five major areas around which the conference will be built. These are as follows:

1. The Family Developing Its Spiritual Life
2. Achieving a Mature Family Life
3. The Community Influences the Family
4. The Family Facing World Responsibility
5. The Family Working Through the Church

Coaching conferences for the chairmen of these meetings will be held during September and the first week in October.

All the Boards and Agencies of the Church concerned with family life are participating in the planning of this National Conference.

Pre-conference studies in the Annual Conferences did much in 1951 to make possible the success of the work groups within the conference. When the conference convenes in Cleveland in October, 1954, each of the five work group sections will be sub-divided into five age group levels as follows:

a. For couples without children
b. For parents of pre-school children
c. For parents of grade school children
d. For parents of youth
e. For persons interested in the general family

The conference in Cleveland will be limited to 3,000 delegates because of the size of the Music Hall in which the meeting is being held. Applications for registration blanks should be made to the Conference Executive Secretary of the Board of Education or to the National Conference on Family Life, Box 871, Nashville, Tennessee.

The Solitary Place [Gulfside

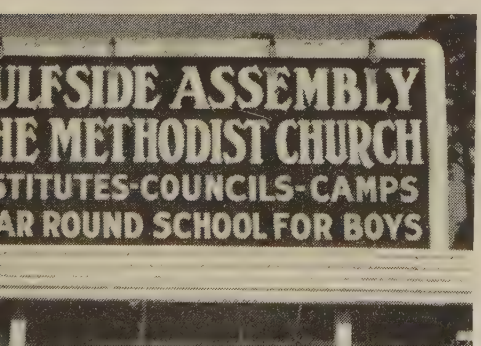
Gulfside was unknown to the author of this prophe

by F. W. Mueller, Executive Secreta

Bishop R. E. Jones, the father and founder of Gulfside.

An open door for multitudes of promising youth.

Above, an interior view of Brooks Chapel. Below, a billboard announces the Gulfside Assembly.



Its Origin

When Bishop R. E. Jones, Methodism's first Negro Bishop, and the Founder of Gulfside, took possession of this land, 48 miles east of New Orleans, Louisiana, near highway 90 on Beach Boulevard, it was a solitary place. The initial investment some years ago comprised only a small acreage located with a sizable water frontage on the Gulf of Mexico. By periodic additions of adjacent parcels of land it steadily increased and now consists of more than 300 acres with its magnificent overspread of trees and underbrush.

As neither funds nor facilities were at hand to fashion and form the acquired property into usable condition as Assembly Grounds, the resolute and resourceful Bishop allured volunteers—ministers, students, and laymen—to the task of transforming the wilderness into a wonderland, teaming with service possibilities for young and old. Someone has said: "Nothing is so powerful as an idea whose time has come." The founder of this Institution, the only one of its kind for the race throughout the country, was motivated, not only by a welfare dream; he was relentlessly actuated by an overpowering desire to provide for his people what was essentially helpful for their mental and spiritual growth and what other racial groups had found to be indispensable. The time for the realization of the Gulfside idea had come.

Its Organization

While the Gulfside idea as relevant to the needs of the Negroes had its inception in the mind of Bishop Jones, the sacrificial cooperation of a number of influential and intrepid church leaders of the race in that day made the venture possible. Among these was the present Bishop of the New Orleans Area, who at that time was the president of Gammon Theological Seminary and under whose recent practical and progressive managerial leadership Gulfside has taken on a "new look." Bishop and Mrs. R. N. Brooks have given lavishly of their time, physical strength, and expert planning in beautification of the grounds, flowery landscaping, and scenic development of the beach-front campus and embossing the various building sites—the Brooks Chapel, the R. E. Jones Hall, the Gulfside Inn and the Assembly Unit—with shrubbery and plants in a setting most pleasing and attractive to the eye.

Who owns it? It belongs to The Methodist Church. The title to the property is vested in the Gulfside Association, a corporation, which functions in conformity with its charter through a board of 32 trustees, 15 of whom are elected—three each—by the Annual Conferences of the New Orleans Area; eight trustees are elected—two each—by the Board of Missions through its Division of National Missions, the Board of Education, the General Board of Evangelism, and the Woman's Division of Christian Service. Seven trustees-at-large, pursuant to the provisions of the charter, are selected and elected by the Gulfside Association. In addition, the founder, with a life-long tenure, and (ex officio) the resident Bishop of the New Orleans Area, complete the board.

Its Objective

Gulfside is unique in the opportunities which it affords. It is strategically located in the deep South in close proximity to over half of the Negro population. As it is a living institution it holds out fascinating and far-reaching hopes for a wide-range of usefulness to all who come under its influence. Practically unknown, thus far, in the wider circles of Methodism and Protestantism, it is now emerging out of its seclusion and moving into the limelight of the church.

Its major objective aims at *creating loftier life visions*. Through its stimulatingly constructive seasonal programs it reaches youth and adults and makes available counsel and guidance in personal problems. The leadership training school, young adult assembly, recreational workshop, guild, and Y-Teens coaching units contribute immeasurably to the lifting of the horizons of the participants in the essential efforts toward self-discovery. Many come there out of surroundings in which the lofty things of a good and useful life are largely obscure. For them Gulfside opens new vistas of real possibilities for future attainments. The services rendered by

/as Made A Fruitful Field

is words are strikingly applicable.

fside Assembly Advance Movement

the Board of Education, the Commission on Ministerial Training, the Board of Missions, the Woman's Division of Christian Service, and the General Board of Evangelism in cooperating in the Gulfside School of Missions, the several Pastors' Schools conducted there, and other specialized activities have been exceedingly effective and fruitful and are most gratefully appreciated.

Its Progress

Through its service and surroundings the Gulfside Enterprise has always enjoyed the goodwill of the local people. There has never been the slightest friction between the races. The officers of the nearby town and the county testify, "Gulfside enjoys the goodwill and confidence of the community and it is accomplishing constructive results and wholesome good among the colored people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the state of Mississippi."

In the course of the developments of the Assembly plans and programs, the needs of the neglected—one might say the "forgotten" boy—haunted and harassed the compassionate heart of the founder. He yearned to do something for these unfortunates in the rural and off-the-way places, held destitute in direct poverty and pitiable home conditions. Elementary education was often beyond their reach. Schools for them, if available, at best offered only short periods of instruction; but, for many, even these meager opportunities for mental training were made impossible by the unrelenting struggle for physical existence.

Even though an organizational pattern and the required equipment were lacking, the Bishop, with the aid of a teacher, who had served several decades in public school work, and some volunteers, constituted a school on a schedule of part-time study and part-time work on the grounds, with the purpose of taking them through the eighth grade as well as teaching and training them for a suitable vocational trade. This type of service at Gulfside is all the more important as no Protestant school-door anywhere swings invitingly open for such handicapped boys and young men. It appears that this need still exists in large measure. A recent Government report on the status of education and its value in reference to this racial group contains this sentence: "Many are still handicapped by poor education in early life." School commissioners closely related to this phase of educational service urge its continuation and expansion. During its years of operation, the school has reclaimed many boys from evil ways, giving them a chance for a new start in life on the road to success. The testimony of those who, in years past, were the recipients of these opportunities for mental rehabilitation and spiritual invigoration invariably is that "the light of hope was lit in me at Gulfside."

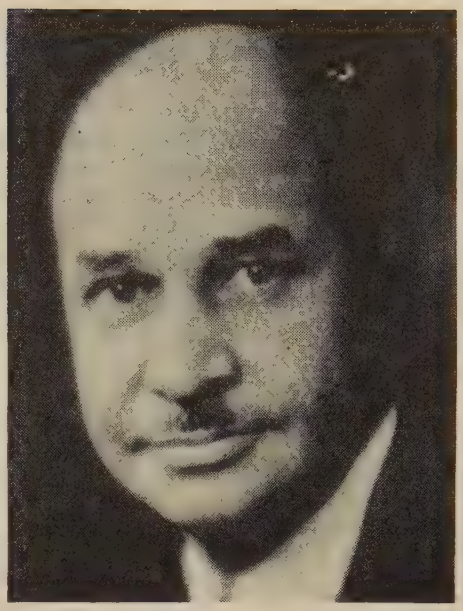
Its Opportunity

While visiting with Dr. John R. Mott in his lovely winter home in Orlando, Florida, we discussed the merits and the immediacy of the Gulfside Missionary Enterprise. The educational and missionary possibilities of the Gulfside Assembly program and the potentials inherent in the Boys Vocational School elicited from him the following statement: "You may quote me as saying, I fully and enthusiastically endorse this undertaking and commend it to the pastors, churches, philanthropic agencies, and the general public for support. I see in this Institution a remarkable opportunity of coming to the relief of the underprivileged. I will assist in whatever way I can."

In his day Bishop J. L. Decell, writing of Gulfside, closed his article with the words: "Here, indeed, is an unique call and challenge to participate in making strong an arm that will keep open a door of opportunity to a race, build for understanding and goodwill, and undergird the virtues of Christianity and Democracy. Methodism and Americanism *should make Gulfside go.*"

As money is transmitted into manhood when invested in the education of youth, what can be more compellingly challenging in the realm of human betterment than to share in providing the facilities to achieve these noble objectives?

Help somebody today.
Gulfside, it may be, we pray.



Bishop R. N. Brooks, Bishop of the New Orleans Area and the Chairman of the Gulfside Executive Committee.

The new Gulfside Inn and Cafeteria.

Above, the Pastors' Classes in the Summer School —school for undergraduates and supply pastors. Below, a view of the campus showing the front of the large Harry Hosier Assembly Hall to the right and the Gulfside Inn to the left.

51 Countries in World Christian Fellowship Number

The September-October issue of THE UPPER ROOM, the annual World Christian Fellowship Number, has representatives of 51 countries this year. The only writer from within the United States is Dr. Jesse Bader, well-known leader of the Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches.

The World Christian Fellowship Number, introduced five years ago, has proved to be the most popular and stimulating of the year in the eyes of many people. It serves in thousands of families as a direct and personal introduction to a real feeling of world fellowship. Often the meditations are written by people who speak and write in another language. They represent the continents and many of the islands of the sea. Their testimony emphasizes the unity of the Christian faith and the basic brotherhood of all believers.

This issue is especially valuable in teaching and emphasizing the missionary work of the church. Many of the writers come from homes which have been won to Christianity through the missionary endeavor. Here is a practical demonstration of the fruits of missionary endeavor.

Preparation for World Wide Communion Sunday can hardly be planned more effectively than by making sure that every home is provided with a copy of this issue as the basis for family devotions.

Extra copies of this special number are printed so that it can serve the many special purposes to which the local churches wish to put it.

NATIONS REPRESENTED

Alaska
Argentina
Australia
Barbados
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IN MANY TONGUES, WORLD CHRISTIANS JOIN IN WORSHIP

Each day millions of Christians throughout the world join in daily devotions through the Upper Room, sharing the same Bible readings, the same meditations, the same prayers. The September-October issue is the annual World Christian Fellowship number which gives special emphasis to the unity of the Christian faith, through the meditations and prayers of thoughtful Christians of 51 different countries.

Place your order today for the September-October issue so that you and your church, and your friends, may join this host of Christians in World Christian Fellowship.

Single copy 10c. Ten or more copies to one address, 5c per copy. Individual subscription, 2 years $1.00. Special pocket edition for youth and men and women in service, same prices.

Order from

The Upper Room

The world's most widely used devotional guide

1908 GRAND AVENUE NASHVILLE, TENN.

The Pastor

The Teachers and Counselors

The Commission on Education

The Church School Superintendent

The Parents of the Young People

How Your Adult Leadership Can Help YOUTH WITNESS

ONE of the most challenging responsibilities of the church in the Youth Emphasis is that of winning and holding the unreached young people for whom The Methodist Church is responsible.

The first major project in the church-wide calendar of the Youth Emphasis is an MYF project in Christian witness in every local church. The form of the Youth Emphasis is not an organizational one. In the final analysis, whatever success we may have in working with youth depends on the young people themselves. Most of the initiative and key leadership for winning other youth to Christ must come from the young people themselves. It is the young people who must measure themselves against the job and do it. But adult leadership can help win and hold youth.

There are 10 definite steps that may be taken now on every charge by the pastor, the church school superintendent, the parents of young people, the teachers and counselors, the Commission on Education, the Commission on Membership and Evangelism, and the young people:

Step ONE

BE INFORMED. Order the necessary materials and ask your leaders to study them. Do your people know that three out of four persons in America are outside the church? Do you know that The Methodist Church reported 31,400 fewer young people on its rolls in 1952 than in 1948? Do you know the situation in your Conference, District, and local church?

Literature constitutes the tools for this job to be done. Materials are available through the Service Department of the Board of Education, The Methodist Publishing House which serves you and TIDINGS. TIDINGS items are listed on the order blank included in this issue of *Shepherds. The Packet for Youth Evangelism in Christian Witness,* is available, with all the same materials, for $1.00 cash. Order from the Service Department, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee.

Step TWO

BEGIN with the Commission on Education. Lay aside three evenings to discuss the situation in your church. Use "So You Do Care About Young People" (No. 2387-B, Free) and "Your Church Commission on Education Can Help Win and Hold Young People" (free for each member of the Commission). [Order from Service Department, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee.]

Step THREE

ASSIGN and train adult leadership and counselors for the youth groups in your charge. Share responsibilities with them at first, gradually shifting the load to them.

Step FOUR

HAVE a planning meeting of the MYF Council, key leaders in the Youth Department, and the Commission on

Membership and Evangelism to discover and reach youth for Christ through Christian witness.

Step FIVE

ALERT your leadership. An excellent challenge to teachers is found in "Evangelistic Teaching Youth" (2367-B, free from the Service Department). Meet with the teachers and help them use *Planbook, Guidebook, Handbook,* and *Workers With Youth.*

Step SIX

INSTALL and train the new officers of the Methodist Youth Fellowship. See "Handbook of the Methodist Youth Fellowship" (2355-BC). Order from The Methodist Publishing House serving you.

Step SEVEN

PLAN a Christian Witness Mission for youth in your charge for October. Secure copies of the "Workbook for Youth Evangelism in MYF—Fall 1953" (2390-B). The Commission on Membership and Evangelism can assist in making this a church-wide undertaking.

Step EIGHT

APPOINT the necessary committees. See page 4 of the Workbook (above) and pages 1-13 of "Here's How" (evangelism action handbook, 2305-BC, 20¢, from The Methodist Publishing House).

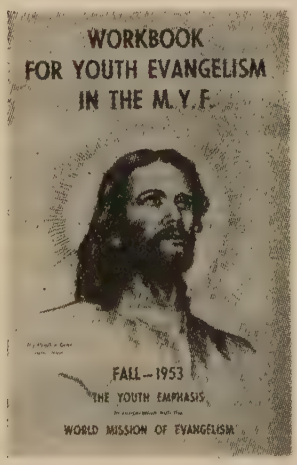
Step NINE

PRAY. It is suggested that such a prayer for youth as this be used in every Methodist Church regularly throughout the fall of 1953:

Eternal God, whose holy purpose for all mankind was revealed in Jesus of Nazareth; grant to young people everywhere vision and strength for this new day; that equipped by Thee for larger years to come and possessed of wide boundaries of heart and mind, they may ever seek to keep abreast of truth and walk in faith and purity along Thy holy way, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Step TEN

WORK. Three words—study, work, and action—are the watchwords of the MYF in the new five program area plan. The plan will work if you work and plan.



Workbook for Youth Evangelism in the MYF

New, 8-page, free brochure

Here is the basic booklet in the Church-wide emphasis on Youth Evangelism. Gives detailed plans and procedures for a local church Christian Witness Mission for Youth. Contains the calendar in the Youth Emphasis and the plans for Youth Cooperation with the World Mission of Evangelism. Free copies available for your MYF Council.

Write: Box 871, Nashville, Tennessee.

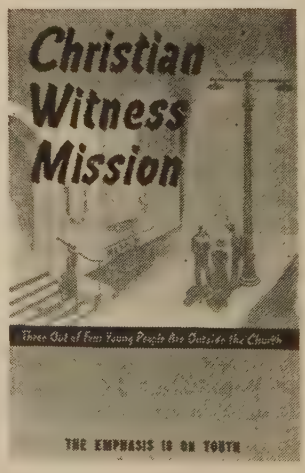
Census Card for School Survey

This card is invaluable in locating youth prospects. Should be ordered in ample quantities for your youth survey in connection with the World Mission. 50¢ per 100. Order from Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

Christian Witness Mission Poster

A new, 2-color display poster for publicizing your local church Christian Witness Mission. 22x34 inches. 10¢ each.

Order from Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.



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World Christian Fellowship Number
September-October

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_____ Stencil Insets, for mimeographed bulletins
_____ Mats, for printed bulletins
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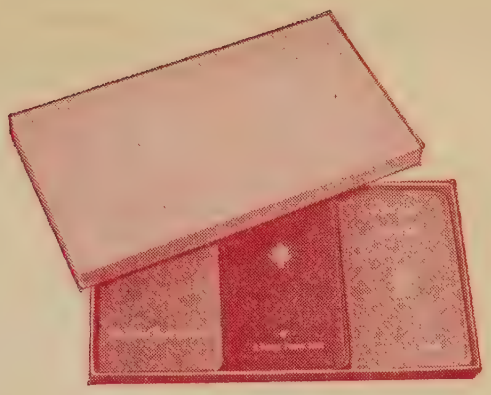

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1908 Grand Avenue
Nashville 4, Tennessee

Gentlemen:

Please allow me to sincerely thank you for the issues of the Upper Room which you sent me. I appreciate your generosity and thank our Father in Heaven for those who made it possible for us to receive them.

I have been privileged to minister to the men on the front lines here in Korea. Many of the copies of your devotional booklet have been used by men who in the last weeks have made history on Old Baldy, Pork Chop, and other hills in this sector. I rejoiced greatly to receive these spiritual aids and the men sought them with real hunger of soul.

Often as I pause to examine the lifeless bodies of our men killed in action I have found the Upper Room in their pockets--a silent testimony of their faith in God and that they cared enough to keep it with them to read. Often our men have been seen carrying their copy of Upper Room in a little pocket located on the left upper front of their flak or protective vests. And I assure you it is inspiring to see that booklet on a soldier up in battle for it means that though the pocket was small yet his Upper Room was of such value to him that he had to carry it.

Many times in visiting bunkers I have seen men reading the Upper Room. One day immediately following our loss of Old Baldy, I visited a small forward outpost in front of Baldy. Our men had just returned from a daylight reconnaissance mission on that hill. They had received intense enemy fire, but God had protected our men. However I was told that there was one Sergeant who had been "bounced" around by the percussion force of an enemy shell. The fellows said he was in a bad shape emotionally and was very nervous.

Finding where he was I went in to see him. He was in a little cave-like hole. And when I went in I found him reading his New Testament and beside him lay his Upper Room. Seeing that I was confident he'd make it fine. And he did. He has recovered completely.

Yes, your service for the Master has brought real spiritual blessings to the fighting men of Korea in my Regiment. And thanks for letting me tell you about it.

Sincerely,

William C. Taggart, Jr.

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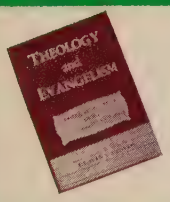

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TESTIMONY

Annual Report

General Board of Evangelism

The Methodist Church . . . **1953**

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TESTIMONY

Yearbook

OF

The General Board of Evangelism

OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

1953

"I am a fellow servant with you and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus."

—Revelation 19:10 (R.S.V.)

General Board of Evangelism
1908 Grand Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee

Annual Meeting—General Board of Evangelism

Nashville, Tennessee—April 8-10, 1953

BISHOP W. ANGIE SMITH, *Presiding*

April 8

10:00 A.M. Communion Service
11:15 A.M. Roll Call
Reading of Minutes
Report of Executive Secretary
Report of Treasurer
12:30 P.M. Adjourn
2:00 P.M. Reports from Staff Members
Department of Upper Room (Devotional Literature)
Department of Local Church Evangelism
Department of Community Evangelism
Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods
Department of Organization and Administration
Department of Spiritual Life Evangelism
5:00 P.M. Adjourn
7:30 P.M. Official Opening and Consecration Service

April 9

8:30 A.M. Upper Room Radio Parish Devotional Service
8:45 A.M. Reports from Staff Members
Department of Tidings (Evangelistic Literature)
Department of Negro Work
Cooperative Department of Youth Evangelism
11:00 A.M. Report of Building Committee
11:30 A.M. The Conference Board of Evangelism—Allen E. Claxton
12:10 P.M. Luncheon—Guests of Board of Publication
2:00 P.M. Meeting of "B" Committees
3:30 P.M. Meeting of "A" Committees
6:30 P.M. Joint Dinner at Board of Education Building

April 10

8:30 A.M. Upper Room Radio Parish Devotional Service
8:45 A.M. The District Committee on Evangelism—Frank E. Trotter
9:15 A.M. The Local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism -Mrs. Milton Randolph
9:35 A.M. Council on World Service and Finance—Thomas B. Lugg
9:45 A.M. Commission on Promotion and Cultivation—E. Harold Mohn
9:55 A.M. The Layman's Retreat—A. S. Mertz and Thomas B. Clay
10:15 A.M. Reports of All Committees
11:45 A.M. Rural Evangelism—Alexander B. Berry, Jr.
12:30 P.M. Adjourn
2:00 P.M. Meeting of Interboard Commission
7:30 P.M. Service of Appreciation and Expectation
Bishop Paul B. Kern
Bishop Ralph S. Cushman
Bishop Charles C. Selecman

Sunday, April 12

2:00 P.M. Open House
5:00 P.M. Upper Room Chapel Service

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For the Quadrennium 1952-56

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Philadelphia, June 26-28, 1953

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

GENERAL BOARD OF EVANGELISM

Wesley Methodist Church

Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 5, 1952

Morning Session—9:30 A.M.

The General Board of Evangelism met in the Wesley Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Tuesday, February 5, 1952. Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, president, was in the chair and led the devotional service, with G. Ernest Thomas at the piano. The roll of members was called by secretary *pro tem,* Elvin Clay Myers, and the following were present:

Bishops: Charles W. Brashares, Ralph S. Cushman, Edward W. Kelly, Gerald Kennedy, Paul B. Kern, W. Earl Ledden, Arthur J. Moore.

Central Jurisdiction: E. M. Hurley, A. J. Newton, O. V. Cooper.

North Central Jurisdiction: Claude W. Cooper, E. E. Franklin, J. Boyd Davis, Mrs. H. F. Brandt, Miss Jacqueline Miller.

Northeastern Jurisdiction: Weldon Crossland, George A. Fallon, Wilbert H. Dougherty, Mrs. Henry B. Ebner.

South Central Jurisdiction: L. O. Smith, Tom W. Spradling, Mrs. Walker Milam, James T. Harris, Jr.

Southeastern Jurisdiction: E. J. Pendergrass, J. H. Chitwood, Mrs. P. E. Cunningham, Bernard S. Via, Jr.

Western Jurisdiction: Ray W. Ragsdale, Reuben Dutton, Miss Ethel V. Sprague, Paul Peterson.

Ex-officio: T. Otto Nall, J. A. Engle, Robert G. Mayfield, Mrs. Edwin B. White.

Members-at-large: Guy O. Carpenter, Allen E. Claxton, H. R. Coleman, Byron A. Davis, Z. T. Johnson, Ralph G. Kleen, Elvin Clay Myers, Sollie E. McCreless, Mrs. W. M. Alexander, Mrs. E. V. Moorman.

Representatives from World Service and Finance: Charles A. Jones.

Letters and telegrams of regret were read from Mrs. J. D. Bragg and Mrs. Jennie Ruth Crump who could not be present, and greetings were ordered sent to them.

The following guests were presented: Dr. George Price, Rev. George Harper, Dr. C. N. Richmond, Dr. A. Wesley Pugh, Dr. R. J. Rice, Dr. Ernest Groenig, Dr. Robert G. Morris, Mr. Roger Burgess, Dr. Ezra Ellis, Dr. Royer H. Woodburn, Rev. Robert Laidig, Dr. Thomas B. Lugg, Mr. Claude Holmes, Mr. Hallie P. Johns, Dr. Arthur West, Mr. O. B. Fanning, Dr. and Mrs. Earl F. Burgess, Dr. Edgar H. Nease, Dr. Truman S. Potter, Dr. Farrell D. Jenkins, Dr. Oscar T. Olson, Dr. Leon T. Moore, Dr. Walter S. Overstreet, Dr. J. Edward Carothers.

170. *Voted:* To move the time for consideration of the Survey Report from 4:30 P.M. Wednesday to 2:00 P.M., the same to be the order of the day at that hour.

The Committee Report on the Survey was distributed.

171. *Voted:* That the agenda appearing on Page 7 of EVIDENCE be the official agenda with such changes as might be found necessary.

172. *Voted:* That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting of the Board together with the Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings be approved without reading.

Dr. Harry Denman, Executive Secretary, read his report. The report was accepted with appreciation, and such sections as deal with the work of the committees were referred to the appropriate committees. Dr. Denman then spoke in high appreciation of the leadership of our chairman, Bishop Cushman. At this point Joseph H. Edge presented Mrs. Cushman to the Board.

173. *Voted:* That staff reports be referred to the standing committees for reading and action on the recommendations contained therein.

The personnel of the Standing Committees and places of meeting were announced and the Board recessed to reconvene at 2:00 P.M.

Afternoon Session—2:00 P.M.

Bishop Ralph S. Cushman was in the chair and led in a brief devotional service. Truman S. Potter led in prayer.

The report of the Building Committee was presented by J. Manning Potts.

174. *Voted:* To adopt the report of the Building Committee together with the Minutes of the Local Building Committee.

175. *Voted:* That the Prayer Room in the chapel in the new building be a memorial to Grover C. Emmons, and that it be called the Grover C. Emmons Prayer Room with the inscription above the door, "Alone With God."

176. *Voted:* To approve the signing of the contract for the carved wood picture of "The Last Supper" at a cost of $18,050.00. This item was not in the original contract. The contract has been awarded to Irving, Casson, and Davenport of New York and Boston.

177. *Voted:* To ratify the purchase of the chapel lighting fixtures at a cost of $3,179.08. This item was not in the original contract.

The booklet, "The Upper Room Chapel—A Devotional Shrine," was then distributed and members of the Board and

friends were given the opportunity to contribute $1.00 or more towards the cost of printing the same. The members responded generously.

The Week of Dedication was then presented by Bishop Paul B. Kern, who spoke of the work carried on in the past and expressed appreciation for the help given by this Board.

The Board recessed at 3:15 P.M. to go into "B" Committee meetings.

Wednesday, February 6, 1952

Morning Session—8:30 A.M.

Bishop Ralph S. Cushman was in the chair, and the session opened with the singing of hymns and a devotional message by T. Otto Nall. There was a solo by Mrs. LaVerne Berne, contralto.

The report of the Department of Spiritual Life was presented, Allen E. Claxton, committee chairman, presiding. G. Ernest Thomas reported as Director. Harry Price spoke on "The Philosophy of Evangelism." George Harper spoke for youth evangelism and its importance to the Church and the Board. Bishop Kern spoke on spiritual life, new member assimilation, and the cultivation of "holy habits." Mrs. W. M. Alexander presented the written report of the Spiritual Life Committee with its recommendations.

178. *Voted:* To approve all recommendations in the report of the Spiritual Life Committee with slight modifications.

Dr. Lugg spoke briefly about the finances and program of World Service, as also did Charles A. Jones of the World Service Commission.

The report of the Department on Negro Work, Elvin Clay Myers, committee chairman, was presented. R. G. Morris and C. N. Richmond spoke. J. W. Golden presented a chart showing Negro membership changes since unification. Byron A. Davis offered the report of the Committee on Negro Work.

179. *Voted:* To approve the report and recommendations of the Committee on Negro Work with the addition of "emphasis on winning boys and men."

A memorial to the General Conference on the World Wide Mission of Evangelism was presented.

180. *Voted:* That the memorial dealing with World Evangelism as a united emphasis during 1952 and 1953 be adopted.

Oscar Thomas Olson, chairman of the World Section of the World Methodist Council, spoke inspiringly on the "World Wide Evangelism," following which adjournment was made.

Afternoon Session—2:00 P.M.

Bishop Cushman was in the chair. After some announcements a news release on the "Cuba for Christ" Mission was read.

The report of the Committee to Study the Report of the Survey Commission was introduced by Ray W. Ragsdale and read by George A. Fallon. Bishop Arthur J. Moore spoke to the report.

181. *Voted:* To approve the report and its recommendations.

182. *Voted:* That a copy of this Report be sent to each delegate to the General Conference and such others as the committee may determine.

183. *Voted:* That this committee be continued and that it be asked and authorized to act in behalf of the Board of Evangelism in the General Conference in accord with the report and resolutions.

The report of the Department of United Evangelistic Missions was opened by E. E. Franklin, committee chairman, who introduced Harry L. Williams. Dr. Williams introduced his staff and spoke of the spirit and achievements of the evangelistic missions. Leon T. Moore gave an address on "What the United Evangelistic Mission Has Meant to the Philadelphia Area." Bishop Gerald Kennedy spoke on the United Evangelistic Mission and its value.

184. *Voted:* To approve the resolutions and recommendations of the Committee on United Evangelistic Missions.

185. *Voted:* To approve the resolution concerning the Layman Trust for Evangelism.

C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., director of the Department of Local Church Evangelism, introduced Farrell D. Jenkins who spoke on "Evangelism in the Local Church." Claude W. Cooper, chairman of the Committee on Local Church Evangelism, presented A. J. Newton who read the report for the committee.

186. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Committee on Local Church Evangelism and the recommendations therein.

Thursday, February 7, 1952

Morning Session—8:30 A.M.

Bishop Cushman was in the chair. The session opened with a devotional by Bishop Charles W. Brashares.

187. *Voted:* That Oscar T. Olson's address be mimeographed and made available to members of the Board. [This was done in connection with the mimeographed minutes of this Board meeting.]

E. J. Pendergrass, chairman of the Committee on Tidings Evangelistic Literature, presented George H. Jones for some introductory remarks, after which Dr. Pendergrass made the report for the Committee. Pending the adoption of the report Bishop Gerald Kennedy addressed the Board concerning the work of Tidings Department and of the evangelistic literature. George H. Jones presented a copy of the February, 1952 issue of SHEPHERDS to Bishop Cushman. With this issue the 1,750,000th copy of SHEPHERDS came from the press. Bishop Cushman concluded with some appropriate remarks.

188. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Committee on Tidings.

The Committee on Legislation presented two memorials to the General Conference.

189. *Voted:* To approve the memorial concerning Letters of Notification.

190. *Voted:* To approve the memorial to the General Conference on Making District Secretaries of Evangelism and Conference MYF Chairmen of Christian Witness Commissions members of Conference Boards of Evangelism.

191. *Voted:* To have a box luncheon today at 12:30 P.M. in order to conclude all business shortly thereafter.

Dr. J. Manning Potts introduced Allen E. Claxton who presented the report and recommendations of the Upper Room Committee.

192. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Upper Room Committee and commend the editor on the world-wide circulation as the largest of any religious publication.

193. *Voted:* To approve the resolution about the late Dr. Albert Edward Bailey who has written the art picture interpretations in THE UPPER ROOM for many years.

J. Manning Potts introduced Edgar H. Nease who made striking, practical, and helpful suggestions about the varied use possible for THE UPPER ROOM. Truman S. Potter spoke searchingly about the spiritual and devotional work of THE UPPER ROOM. Dr. Potts presented some human interest facts and experiences.

Dr. Claxton made some statements concerning the Survey Commission's proposals and urged that The Upper Room, Tidings, etc., be kept under the Board of Evangelism.

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by Sollie E. McCreless, chairman.

194. *Voted:* To approve the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee, including the Pension Plan for Ministerial Members.

A general statement on the Medical Arts Building was made by Sollie McCreless as follows:

1. The contract with the tenant is sound and good.
2. It would be unwise to consider selling the building at this time.
3. Study is being given to adding one or more floors for use by the tenant.

195. *Voted:* That Wilbert H. Dougherty, Edwin L. Jones, B. A. Whitmore be elected Trustees for the Foundation of Evangelism for three years.

196. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Foundation for Evangelism.

197. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Committee on Cultivation, Promotion and Specials, presented by Sollie McCreless, chairman.

D. E. Jackson made a statement about the finances of the new building.

Robert G. Mayfield, Executive Secretary of the Board of Lay Activities, was introduced and spoke briefly.

198. *Voted:* To send congratulations and greetings to the Board of Lay Activities in its annual meeting next week.

199. *Voted:* To approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of February 5 and 6.

The report of the Department of Public Communications Evangelism was presented with Guy O. Carpenter as chairman. A. Wesley Pugh made a statement about the value of radio. Howard W. Ellis distributed and explained the radio programs carried on 800 stations. He demonstrated with a radio platter program. J. Edward Carothers made a statement. Recommendations and resolutions from the Committee on Public Communications Evangelism were submitted by L. O. Smith.

200. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Committee on Public Communications Evangelism.

201. *Voted:* To approve the report of the Committee on Parental and Family Life.

202. *Voted:* To approve the resolutions of appreciation.

203. *Voted:* To have a dinner at San Francisco during the General Conference in honor of Bishops Cushman, Kern, and Kelly.

Harry Denman, Executive Secretary, made an inspiring closing address, and the Board adjourned *sine die*.

Respectfully submitted,

WELDON CROSSLAND, *Secretary*

Bishop Cushman presides at the ceremonies formally laying the cornerstone of the new building.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

GENERAL BOARD OF EVANGELISM

For the 1952-56 Quadrennium

Chicago, Illinois

August 1, 1952

MORNING SESSION

The General Board of Evangelism met at 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, August 1, 1952, at 10:00 A.M.

Devotions were conducted by Bishop W. Angie Smith.

Bishop W. Angie Smith, chairman of the Board, elected by the Council of Bishops, called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Walker Milam was elected temporary secretary. Mrs. Milam called the roll and the following members were present:

Bishops: J. W. E. Bowen, H. Clifford Northcott, W. Earl Ledden, William C. Martin, Roy H. Short, Glenn R. Phillips, W. Angie Smith

Central Jurisdiction: E. M. Hurley, Commodore A. Barrett

North Central Jurisdiction: Claude W. Cooper, Truman W. Potter, J. Boyd Davis

Northeastern Jurisdiction: George A. Fallon, Weldon Crossland, Albert W. Cliffe, Mrs. F. Shaver

South Central Jurisdiction: Dawson C. Bryan, Thomas W. Spradling, Mrs. Walker Milam

Southeastern Jurisdiction: Wayne A. Lamb, Edward J. Pendergrass, Hartwell Davis, Mrs. C. C. Sapp

Western Jurisdiction: Ray W. Ragsdale, Ralph G. Kleen, Dallas E. Wood, Mrs. J. F. McAlear

The following visitors were present: Dr. T. Otto Nall, Editor of THE CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE; Dr. Arthur West, of Methodist Information; Dr. Thomas B. Lugg, Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the Council on World Service and Finance; Dr. Harry C. Spencer, Executive Secretary of the Radio and Film Commission; Dr. Howard Tower, Associate Secretary of Radio and Film Commission; Mr. Shelby Southard, Editor of *The Methodist Layman*.

Telegrams and letters were received from Mrs. Jennie Ruth Crump, Mrs. O. A. Gunnerud, and Rev. C. N. Richmond stating that they were unable to be present because of illness. It was announced, also, that Dr. Kenneth W. Copeland was traveling in Europe and was unable to be present.

1. *Voted:* To send telegrams of condolence to members prevented from attending because of illness.

The chairman, Bishop W. Angie Smith, announced that the following had been appointed members of the nominating committee and that, because of the large amount of work to be done by this committee, it had met on the previous day and was ready to report: Bishop Glenn R. Phillips, chairman, Mrs. Jennie Ruth Crump, Claude W. Cooper, George A. Fallon, Mrs. Walker Milam, Wayne A. Lamb, Ralph G. Kleen.

2. *Voted:* To approve the appointment of the nominating committee and to receive their report.

3. *Voted:* To elect Bishop W. Earl Ledden as Vice-president

4. *Voted:* To elect Ray W. Ragsdale as Recording Secretary

5. *Voted:* To elect Harry Denman as Executive Secretary

6. *Voted:* To elect D. E. Jackson as Treasurer

7. *Voted:* To elect the following Executive Committee: Bishop W. Angie Smith, Chairman, Bishop Roy H. Short (SE), Tom W. Spradling (SC), Truman W. Potter (NC), Bishop W. Earl Ledden (NE), E. M. Hurley (C), Ray W. Ragsdale (W).

8. *Voted:* To elect the following members at large: Mrs. E. V. Moorman (NC), Guy O. Carpenter (NC), Sollie E. McCreless (SC), A. J. Newton (C), J. Henry Chitwood (SE), Mrs. W. M. Alexander (SE), A. E. Acey (SE), Allen E. Claxton (NE), Wilbert A. Dougherty (NE), Secretary of Spiritual Life Woman's Division of Christian Service, Chairman of South Central Jurisdictional Board of Evangelism, Chairman of Western Jurisdictional Board of Evangelism.

9. *Voted:* To elect the following Local Building Committee: B. A. Whitmore, chairman; E. W. Turnley, Mrs. W. M. Alexander, D. E. Jackson, J. Manning Potts, secretary; Harry Denman.

10. *Voted:* That the Executive Committee of the Board serve as the General Building Committee.

11. *Voted:* That Bishop W. Angie Smith represent our Board on the Commission on Promotion and Cultivation.

12. *Voted:* That Harry Denman and J. Manning Potts represent our Board on the Interboard Committee on Family Life.

13. *Voted:* That J. Manning Potts represent our Board on the Radio and Film Commission.

14. *Voted:* That the Associate Secretary of the Department of Cooperative Youth Evangelism represent our Board on the Interboard Commission on Christian Vocations.

15. *Voted:* That the following be our representatives on the Interboard Commission on Local Church: Bishop W. Angie Smith, Bishop Roy H. Short, Ray W. Ragsdale, Truman W. Potter, Bishop W. Earl Ledden, E. M. Hurley.

16. *Voted:* To authorize the Executive Committee to fill any vacancies that may occur in the members at large.

The functions of the various departments of work were presented by the staff members.

17. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods as presented by Harry E. Williams.

18. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of Negro Work as presented by J. W. Golden.

19. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of Organization and Administration as presented by J. H. Edge.

20. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Spiritual Life Department as presented by G. Ernest Thomas.

21. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of Business as presented by D. E. Jackson.

22. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Tidings Department of Evangelistic Literature as presented by George H. Jones.

23. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of Local Church Evangelism as presented by C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr.

24. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Upper Room Department of Devotional Literature as presented by J. Manning Potts.

25. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Upper Room Department of Family Life as presented by J. Manning Potts.

26. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Department of Community Evangelism as presented by Harry L. Williams.

27. *Voted:* To adopt the Functions of the Co-operative Department of Youth Evangelism as presented by Howard Ellis. Exhibit XI.

28. *Voted:* To express deep appreciation to Harry Denman and the staff of the Board of Evangelism for the fine work that has been done.

29. *Voted:* To adopt the recommendations regarding Standing Committees as presented.

30. *Voted:* To adopt the recommendation regarding the Committee on Program of World Evangelism.

31. *Voted:* To add a layman from the Western Jurisdiction and a layman from the Central Jurisdiction to the Committee on Program of World Evangelism. This to be done by the Executive Committee.

The chairman announced that Bishop William C. Martin would serve as temporary chairman of the Finance Committee, inasmuch as Sollie E. McCreless was not present.

Adjourment was made at 12:15 P.M. for committee meetings and lunch.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was called to order by Bishop W. Angie Smith at 1:45 P.M. Bishop Clifford Northcott led in prayer.

Packets of literature were presented to Board members by George H. Jones.

J. Manning Potts spoke of the Welcome Dinner that was given in Nashville in honor of Bishop W. Angie Smith and Bishop Roy H. Short and distributed the program booklet used on that occasion.

32. *Voted:* To elect the following staff of the General Board of Evangelism as presented by Dr. Denman and recommended by the Executive Committee:

1. The Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods—Harry L. Williams, Director
2. The Department of Finance—D. E. Jackson, Treasurer
3. The Department of The Upper Room Devotional Literature—J. Manning Potts, Editor
4. The Department of the Local Church—C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., Director
5. The Department of Negro Work—J. W. Golden, Director
6. The Department of Community Evangelism—Eugene E. Golay, Director
7. The Department of Cooperative Youth Evangelism—Howard W. Ellis, Director
8. The Department of Tidings Evangelistic Literature—George H. Jones, Editor
9. The Department of Organization and Administration—J. H. Edge, Director
10. The Upper Room Family Life Department—J. Manning Potts, Director
11. The Department of Spiritual Life—G. Ernest Thomas, Director

33. *Voted:* To hold the Annual Meeting of the Board of Evangelism at Nashville on April 8, 9, 10, 1953, and that the annual meetings during the quadrennium be held during the week following Easter, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Chairman W. Angie Smith announced that the Executive Committee will meet during the quadrennium on the first Friday of the last month of each quarter.

34. *Voted:* To adopt the proposal for relationship of the Board of Evangelism and The Upper Room with the Radio and Film Commission of The Methodist Church, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Harry C. Spencer of the Radio and Film Commission was presented and spoke of the value of the relationship referred to above.

35. *Voted:* To adopt the following proposal regarding the need for Church Extension as recommended by the Executive Committee:

The Board of Evangelism, in session August 1, offers its services to the Board of Missions and suggests that together they petition the Council of Bishops to call a church-wide meeting in the interest of organizing new churches in new and abandoned areas. The great evangelistic need of our day is to bring to the attention of our local churches the need of Church Extension. We hope the Council of Bishops will create a committee on this matter and coopt representatives from the several interested boards to plan a great nation-wide, church-wide meeting to promote interest in this work.

36. *Voted:* To send a telegram of greeting to Bishop U. V. W. Darlington on this the occasion of his birthday.

37. *Voted:* That a letter of congratulation be sent to Bishop and Mrs. Ralph S. Cushman on the occasion of their wedding anniversary on August 24.

E. J. Pendergrass, as temporary secretary, reported for the Finance Committee that they had reviewed the Audit Report for the year ending May 31, 1952.

38. *Voted:* That the Executive Committee be authorized to set the salaries of the Executive Secretary and his associates.

39. *Voted:* To adopt the revised budgets as proposed, subject to the action authorizing the Executive Committee to set salaries as above.

40. *Voted:* To adopt the recommendations of the Finance Committee in regard to personnel policies, with the understanding that the administrative staff will determine office hours for employees.

41. *Voted:* That the Executive Committee study and report to the next meeting the matter of preserving the permanent funds of the Foundation for Evangelism and allowing only the use of the interest on the same for the program of evangelism.

42. *Voted:* To express appreciation to the chairman and the staff for making this meeting more than an organizational meeting but one that has taken some definite forward steps.

43. *Voted:* That the chairman be authorized to appoint someone to represent him at the meetings in September when the other Boards and Agencies organize.

Adjournment followed prayer led by Bishop Ledden.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray W. Ragsdale, *Secretary*

MINUTES OF

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 5, 1952

The Executive Committee of the General Board of Evangelism met at the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota, for breakfast at 7:30 A.M. on February 5, 1952.

The following were present: Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, Dr. Guy O. Carpenter, Dr. J. Henry Chitwood, Dr. Ray W. Ragsdale. Staff members: Harry Denman, Joseph H. Edge, G. Ernest Thomas, C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., Harry L. Williams, Howard W. Ellis, George H. Jones, J. Manning Potts, J. W. Golden, D. E. Jackson.

Bishop Cushman, president, presided, and J. Manning Potts opened the session with a brief devotional. J. H. Edge was elected secretary *pro tem.*

258. *Voted:* To approve the minutes of the meeting of October 10, 1951.

D. E. Jackson, representing the Building Committee, passed around pictures of the new building and said we were planning to lay the cornerstone on March 5, 1952, at 4:30 P.M. J. Manning Potts read the minutes of the meeting of the Local Building Committee for January 2, 1952.

259. *Voted:* That the Prayer Room in the new chapel be a memorial to Grover C. Emmons, and that it be called the Grover C. Emmons Prayer Room with the inscription above the door, "Alone With God."

260. *Voted:* To approve the signing of the contract for the carved wood picture of "The Last Supper" at a cost of $18,050.00. This item was not in the original contract. The contract has been awarded to Irving, Casson, and Davenport of New York and Boston.

261. *Voted:* To ratify the purchase of the chapel lighting fixtures at a cost of $3,179.08. This item was not in the original contract.

262. *Voted:* That the following inscription be put on the chapel cornerstone:

The Upper Room
General Board of Evangelism
The Methodist Church
1951

J. Manning Potts announced a gift of $700.00 from Mrs. E. V. Moorman for the Communion Table.

263. *Voted:* That the Annual Meeting of the Conference Secretaries of Evangelism be held November 28-December 7, 1952, and that it be a Spiritual Life Mission or Revival. We note with approval that the Movement includes a daily session for host and visiting pastors, and preaching and visitation in local churches with the purpose that every member of every church shall make a Spiritual Life Covenant.

264. *Voted:* That we comply with the request of the Council of Bishops that we do everything we can to implement the Call to Prayer on the specially designated Day of Prayer, April 20, 1952.

265. *Voted:* To approve the letter concerning the observance of the Week of Dedication and the Week of Lay Visitation Evangelism to be sent to the leaders of Methodism. This letter to be signed by Bishops Cushman and Kern and Robert G. Mayfield.

Dr. Denman read a letter from E. Stanley Jones regarding his availability for evangelistic services.

266. *Voted:* That the next meeting of the Executive Committee be held in Nashville at 10:00 A.M. on March 6, 1952.

Prayers were offered and adjournment was made.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Edge, *Secretary Pro Tem*

Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 6, 1952

The Executive Committee of the General Board of Evangelism met at 7:00 A.M. on February 6, 1952, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The following were present: Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, Dr. Guy O. Carpenter, Dr. J. Henry Chitwood, Dr. Ray W. Ragsdale, Dr. Weldon Crossland, Mrs. E. B. White. All members of the administrative staff were also present.

Bishop Cushman was in the chair.

267. *Voted:* To approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held February 5, 1952.

268. *Voted:* To hold the service for laying of cornerstone of new building at 4:30 P.M., on Wednesday, March 5, 1952, in Nashville.

Dr. Denman read letters commending Dr. Thomas' book, "The Holy Habits of the Spiritual Life," and the United Evangelistic Mission in Arkansas-Louisiana.

Dr. Denman read a proposal of the staff that city-wide, county-wide, and district-wide evangelistic services be considered, the name suggested being "United Laymen's Revival."

269. *Voted:* To request the staff to work on the proposal in more detail as to name, finances, and plans, and submit their proposal to the Executive Committee on March 6.

270. *Voted:* That the Layman Trust for Evangelism be sent an expression of the sincere appreciation and cordial thanks of the Board for the handsome gift that it made to the evangelistic work of the General Board of Evangelism.

271. *Voted:* That a request for $20,000.00 be made of the Layman Trust for Evangelism for the evangelistic work of the General Board of Evangelism for the coming year.

272. *Voted:* To send a letter of thanks to the *a cappella* choir of Hamline University which sang at the Board services on February 5.

273. *Voted:* To approve the exploration, by the staff, of the possibility of bringing a team of British evangelists to America this autumn for mass meetings in any of the Episcopal Areas where the bishops desire them, as part of the World Wide Methodist Evangelistic Movement.

Adjournment was made.

Respectfully submitted,

WELDON CROSSLAND, *Secretary*

Chicago, Illinois
April 1, 1952

The Executive Committee of the General Board of Evangelism met at 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, at 9:30 A.M. on April 1, 1952. The following were present: Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, Ray W. Ragsdale, Weldon Crossland. Staff members: Harry Denman, D. E. Jackson, J. H. Edge, George H. Jones, J. Manning Potts, Harry L. Williams. Arthur West, of Methodist Information, was also present.

Bishop Cushman presided and opened the session with a brief devotional followed by prayer led by J. Manning Potts.

274. *Voted:* To approve the minutes of the meetings of February 5 and 6, 1952.

D. E. Jackson told of the progress and expense of the new building. J. Manning Potts told about the laying of the cornerstone.

275. *Voted:* That a statement about the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone be prepared by Dr. Potts and included in the minutes. This was done.

276. *Voted:* To thank the Board of Education for graciously including our cornerstone laying in its Annual Board Meeting program.

277. *Voted:* To send word to the architects that we are pleased with the progress being made on the building.

Harry L. Williams told of the United Evangelistic Missions which have been held since September 1, 1951. In 31 missions, held on District, Conference, Area and Jurisdictional levels, there have been 75,422 commitments on profession of faith and 60,597 letter transfers, making total commitments of 138,259.

J. Manning Potts told of the Alaska Mission. Ray W. Ragsdale complimented the Board of Evangelism and Harry L. Williams for the superb work in the Western Jurisdiction Mission.

278. *Voted:* That the staff explore the new opportunities before the Board of Evangelism for evangelistic preaching and appeal through radio and television.

Joseph H. Edge told about the United Evangelistic Mission in Missouri, which has just closed. Dr. Denman commented upon the strategic opportunity before our Church.

The Report of the Survey Commission was discussed and Dr. Denman read some correspondence he had had with Bishop J. Ralph Magee. Ray W. Ragsdale made a statement and George H. Jones read the recommendations of the staff.

279. *Voted:* To ask our Survey Committee and the staff to prepare possible legislation to implement the resolutions adopted by the annual meeting of the General Board of Evangelism.

George H. Jones read various memorials proposed by the staff for the General Conference.

280. *Voted:* To approve the following Memorials to the General Conference:

Conference Evangelists

Conference Boards of Evangelism to Recommend Conference Evangelists

Appointment of Conference Evangelists

Securing Evangelists

Concerning Duties of the General Board of Evangelism

Concerning General Board of Evangelism

281. *Voted:* To approve the "Message to the Church Concerning Evangelism" for submitting to the General Conference.

282. *Voted:* To ask the staff to study the matter of barren churches.

283. *Voted:* To thank the Layman Trust for Evangelism for their appropriation of $15,000.00 for the work of evangelism for the next fiscal year.

284. *Voted:* To ask J. Manning Potts to consider an "Upper Room" especially for this General Conference.

285. *Voted:* If necessary, the chairman is authorized to call a meeting of the Executive Committee at the time of the General Conference in San Francisco.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

WELDON CROSSLAND, *Secretary*

Chicago, Illinois

August 1, 1952

The Executive Committee met at 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, on August 1, 1952.

The following members were present: Bishop W. Angie Smith, Bishop Roy H. Short, Tom W. Spradling, Truman W. Potter, Bishop W. Earl Ledden, E. M. Hurley, Ray W. Ragsdale. Staff: Harry Denman.

1. *Voted:* To elect Bishop W. Angie Smith as chairman.

2. *Voted:* To elect Ray W. Ragsdale as secretary.

3. *Voted:* To recommend to the Board that the Annual Meeting of the Board be held in Nashville on April 8, 9, 10, 1953.

4. *Voted:* To recommend that the annual meetings of the Board for the present quadrennium be held each year during the week following Easter, subject to necessary changes.

5. *Voted:* That the Executive Committee meet as follows: (the first Friday of the last month of each quarter) December 5, 1952; April 7, 1953; June 5, 1953; September 4, 1953; December 4, 1953.

6. *Voted:* To recommend to the Board that the following department heads be elected:

1. The Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods—Harry L. Williams, Director
2. The Department of Finance—D. E. Jackson, Treasurer
3. The Department of The Upper Room Devotional Literature—J. Manning Potts, Editor
4. The Department of the Local Church—C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., Director
5. The Department of Negro Work—J. W. Golden, Director
6. The Department of Community Evangelism—Eugene E. Golay, Director
7. The Department of Cooperative Youth—Howard Ellis, Director
8. The Department of Tidings Evangelistic Literature—George H. Jones, Editor
9. The Department of Organization and Administration—J. H. Edge, Director
10. The Upper Room Family Life Department—J. Manning Potts, Director
11. The Department of Spiritual Life—G. Ernest Thomas, Director

7. *Voted:* That the Chairman and Executive Secretary and Bishop Roy H. Short be asked to meet with the program committee for the proposed joint meeting of the Boards of Education, Evangelism, and Lay Activities to be held in Nashville April 8, 9, 10, 1953.

8. *Voted:* To adopt the recommendation in regard to a church-wide meeting on Church Extension as follows:

The Board of Evangelism, in session August 1st, offers its services to the Board of Missions and suggests that together they petition the Council of Bishops to call a church-wide meeting in the interest of organizing new churches in new and abandoned areas. The great evangelistic need of our day is to bring to the attention of our local churches the need of Church Extension. We hope the Council of Bishops will create a committee on this matter and coopt representatives from the several interested boards to plan a great nation-wide, church-wide meeting to promote interest in this work.

9. *Voted:* To adopt the proposal of the relationship of the Board of Evangelism and The Upper Room with the Radio and Film Commission of The Methodist Church.

10. *Voted:* To elect Dallas Wood from the Western Jurisdiction and C. A. Barrett from the Central Jurisdiction to the Committee of 50 on the Program of World Evangelism.

Respectfully submitted,

RAY W. RAGSDALE, *Secretary*

Washington, D. C.

August 29, 1952

The Executive Committee of the General Board of Evangelism met for breakfast, 8:15 A.M., in the Union Station Dining Room, Washington, D. C., on August 29, 1952.

The following members were present: Bishop W. Angie Smith, Bishop W. Earl Ledden, Bishop Roy H. Short, Tom W. Spradling, Truman W. Potter, E. M. Hurley, Ray W. Ragsdale. Staff: Harry Denman, D. E. Jackson, George H. Jones. Guest: W. Angie Smith, Jr.

11. *Voted:* To approve the Minutes of the meeting held August 1, 1952.

Bishop Smith brought to the attention of the Executive Committee that Dr. Albert C. Hoover of the Statistical Bureau had written him that several pastors were inquiring of him how to report "active" and "inactive" members to the Annual Conference.

12. *Voted:* To ask Bishop Smith and Harry Denman to prepare a statement regarding this situation to be submitted to the Council of Bishops and Methodist Information.

13. *Voted:* To adopt the salaries for the Administrative Staff as printed in the 1952-53 budget, subject to adjustments by the Executive Committee.

Harry Denman read a letter from Mrs. Frank G. Brooks regarding membership of the Spiritual Life Secretary of the Woman's Division of Christian Service on the Board of Evangelism.

14. *Voted:* To ask the Spiritual Life Secretary of the Woman's Division of Christian Service to attend all the meetings of the Board of Evangelism with the same status as an administrative staff member—with the privilege of speaking without vote. Her expenses will be paid by the Board of Evangelism. This action was taken because the General Conference legislated that no one person shall be a member of more than one Board or Agency.

15. *Voted:* To hold the next meeting of the Executive Committee on December 5, 1952, in Washington, D. C. Time and place to be announced later.

16. *Voted:* To approve the Minutes of the Local Building Committee meeting of June 20, 1952.

17. *Voted:* That the chairman write letters of appreciation to Mrs. E. V. Moorman and the First Methodist Church of Birmingham, Alabama, for the special gifts for the Upper Room Chapel.

18. *Voted:* That the special gifts of $350.00 and $2,850.00 respectively from the Florida Conference and the St. Louis Area United Evangelistic Mission be set aside for special use to be determined by the Executive Committee on the recommendation of the staff.

Harry Denman presented and explained the agenda for the meeting of the Committee of 50 on the World Program of Evangelism, which will meet today.

Adjournment was made at 9:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

RAY W. RAGSDALE, *Secretary*

Denver, Colorado

December 11, 1952

The Executive Committee of the General Board of Evangelism met for lunch at 12:00 noon in the Board Room of the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver, Colorado, on December 11, 1952.

The following members were present: Bishop W. Angie Smith, Bishop W. Earl Ledden, Bishop Roy H. Short, Tom W. Spradling, Truman W. Potter, E. M. Hurley, Ray W. Ragsdale. Staff: Harry Denman, J. Manning Potts, D. E. Jackson. Guests: Bishop Glenn R. Phillips, Bishop J. W. E. Bowen, Bishop Arthur J. Moore.

19. *Voted:* To approve the Minutes of the meeting held August 29, 1952.

The Executive Secretary presented the membership figures prepared by Albert C. Hoover.

The Executive Secretary presented the booklet on the World Mission of Evangelism. Discussion ensued regarding the manner of getting these booklets into the hands of the pastors.

20. *Voted:* To provide each Bishop with a supply of the World Mission booklet, with envelopes to pastors addressed and stamped for the Bishops' convenience in mailing to all pastors of the Areas.

The Executive Secretary presented a resolution regarding World Service.

21. *Voted:* To approve the resolution from the staff to ask the Council on World Service and Finance to approve continuation of the procedure that has been followed for several years to qualify for the annual gift of the Layman Trust for Evangelism of Quincy, Illinois.

The Executive Secretary reported that the Rev. R. F. Goff has been elected chairman of the Board of Evangelism for the Western Jurisdiction and that according to the action of the Board of Evangelism in its meeting August 1, 1952, this automatically made him a member of the General Board of Evangelism from the Church-at-large.

22. *Voted:* To elect Mrs. Wayne W. Harrington as a member-at-large of the General Board of Evangelism.

23. *Voted:* To ask the chairman and executive secretary to secure the consent of a layman who could serve as a member-at-large on the Board and submit the name for vote of the Executive Committee by mail.

24. *Voted:* That the chairman inquire if there is any balance in the Preaching and Teaching Mission of the Advance for Christ and His Church Fund; and, if so, request it for the program of the World Mission on Evangelism.

The Executive Secretary presented a copy of the resolution passed by the Council of Bishops regarding inactive members.

By common consent it was agreed to include copies of the Bishops' resolution on inactive members in the mailing of the booklet on the World Mission on Evangelism.

25. *Voted:* That J. Manning Potts be the Dean of the Upper Room Chapel.

26. *Voted:* To adopt the policy that no space in our building be rented to any other group or agency, but that space be held for expansion of our program.

27. *Voted:* To fix the salaries of the staff personnel, as recommended by the Executive Secretary, effective December 1, 1952, as follows:

Director of Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods	$8,400.00
Director of Department of Spiritual Life Missions	8,400.00
Director of Department of Community Evangelism	7,500.00
Director of Department of Youth Evangelism	7,500.00
Director of Department of Local Church Evangelism	8,000.00
Director of Department of Organization and Administration	8,000.00
Director of Department of Negro Work	8,000.00
Editor of Tidings Department of Evangelistic Literature	8,400.00
Business Manager	8,400.00
Editor of The Upper Room	9,900.00

This is in recognition of the splendid work that is being done by the staff members.

The salary of the Executive Secretary was fixed as of December 1, 1952, at $9,000.00, and house rent $1,200.00.

The Executive Secretary presented recommendations from the staff.

28. *Voted:* That members of the Executive Committee for the World Methodist Convocation on Evangelism at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 26-28, 1953, from our staff be J. Manning Potts, J. H. Edge, George H. Jones, Harry L. Williams; and Bishop W. Angie Smith and Harry Denman as ex-officio members.

29. *Voted:* To request the Committee of the Council of Bishops to set the national meeting of the District Superin-

tendents for June 29-30, 1953 in Philadelphia. This would follow immediately the Convocation on World Evangelism.

30. *Voted:* That the Joint Committee on Materials for Training in Church Membership for the current quadrennium be elected.

31. *Voted:* To request Bishop Arthur J. Moore to represent the cause of the World Evangelism program in the Central German Conference.

32. *Voted:* That the suggestions made by the Radio and Film Commission be accepted, with the understanding that the policy committee have the responsibility of working out with the General Board of Evangelism and the Radio and Film Commission the relationship of the Radio and Film Commission staff member, whose salary is paid by the General Board of Evangelism; and any other matters of policy. It is also understood that any work done for *Tidings* shall carry the *Tidings* label.

33. *Voted:* To elect Harry Denman from the staff and Truman W. Potter from the Board to represent us on the Commission on Rural Life.

34. *Voted:* That Stanley Knock, whose salary is paid by the General Board of Evangelism, shall be confirmed as staff member on the Radio and Film Commission.

35. *Voted:* That Mrs. E. V. Moorman and D. E. Jackson be elected to membership of the Gulfside Assembly Advance Movement.

36. *Voted:* To adopt the report of the Local Building Committee as presented by J. Manning Potts.

37. *Voted:* To accept the offer of Scarritt College to buy the property at 1022 18th Avenue, S., Nashville, Tennessee, for $15,000.00.

Mr. Jackson made a report of the disposition of the various properties of the Board of Evangelism.

39. *Voted:* To tear down old building at 1912 Grand Avenue, next to new building at 1908 Grand Avenue, and prepare parking lot as required by law.

40. *Voted:* To have prayer for sick members of the staff of the Board of Missions and the daughter-in-law of Bishop Smith.

The meeting adjourned with a prayer led by Bishop Ledden.

Respectfully submitted,

RAY W. RAGSDALE, *Secretary*

Above, the cross is raised to the top of the new building of the Board of Evangelism. At the right, Ernest Pelligrini, sculptor, is shown with his clay model of "The Last Supper," which has been reproduced in wood and installed in the Upper Room Chapel.

MINUTES OF THE SECRETARIAL COUNCIL

Interboard Commission on the Local Church

Nashville, Tennessee

June 17, 1952—10:30 A.M.

The Secretarial Council of the Interboard Commission on the Local Church met at 10:30 A.M., June 17, 1952, at Scarritt College, Nashville, Tennessee.

The following members were present: J. Q. Schisler, C. A. Bowen, R. G. Mayfield, John O. Gross, and Harry Denman.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Schisler and he gave the opening prayer.

Dr. C. A. Bowen was elected chairman and R. G. Mayfield secretary. By unanimous agreement these officers are to serve until the organizational meetings of the various Boards in September, 1952.

1. *Voted:* That Dr. Schisler and Mr. Mayfield investigate the possibility of producing a publication on the local church to be used to acquaint the church with the new legislation on this subject; and to attempt to secure an advance copy of that portion of the *Discipline* pertaining to the local church in order that reprints might be secured and distributed as soon as possible.

2. *Voted:* That each Executive Secretary recommend to his Board, or Executive Committee, as the case may be, that the three Boards comprising the Interboard Commission on the Local Church meet simultaneously in Nashville, Tennessee, for their Annual meetings of 1953.

3. *Voted:* That the date to be recommended for the simultaneous meetings would be April 8, 9, and 10, 1953.

4. *Voted:* That the chairman or presidents of the three Boards and the Secretarial Council act as a program committee for the planning of joint sessions to be held at the proposed Annual meetings in 1953.

5. *Voted:* That the Interboard Commission on the Local Church, which will consist of eighteen members, six from each of the three Boards, meet during the week of the proposed meetings of the Boards.

6. *Voted:* That a joint meeting be held for all staff members of the three Boards on December 30, 1952, at Nashville, Tennessee.

7. *Voted:* That the Secretarial Council should meet next in Chicago during the week when the other Boards will be holding their organizational meetings; that at this meeting new officers will be elected and consideration be given to plans and programs for the Interboard Commission of the Local Church.

8. *Voted:* That, in order to prevent confusion with other secretarial groups within The Methodist Church, this Secretarial Council be referred to by using the letters IBSC.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT G. MAYFIELD, *Secretary*

Chicago, Illinois

September 10, 1952

The Secretarial Council of the Interboard Commission on the Local Church met at 6:00 P.M., September 10, 1952, at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

The following were present: J. Q. Schisler, C. A. Bowen, R. G. Mayfield, John O. Gross, and Harry Denman.

9. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Harry Denman that Dr. Schisler be elected as chairman and R. G. Mayfield as secretary. Carried.

10. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Schisler that joint meeting of the staffs of the three Boards be changed from December 30 to December 19, 1952, in Nashville, and that the meeting be concluded with a dinner at 1001 Nineteenth Avenue, South, (Board of Education Building). Carried.

11. *Voted:* Motion by R. G. Mayfield that Dr. Schisler be requested to prepare an agenda for the joint meeting. Carried.

12. *Voted:* Motion by Harry Denman that Council on World Service and Finance be invited to hold its 1953 Annual Meeting in Nashville. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT G. MAYFIELD, *Secretary*

Nashville, Tennessee

December 19, 1952

The Secretarial Council of the Interboard Commission on the Local Church met in Nashville, Tennessee, on December 19, 1952, at the Board of Education Building.

The following were present: J. Q. Schisler, J. O. Gross, Harry Denman, and R. G. Mayfield.

13. *Voted:* Motion by Harry Denman that Horace Williams be invited to be the editor of a Manual on the Commissions on the Local Church which is to be produced in the name of the Boards of Education, Evangelism, and Lay Activities. Carried.

14. *Voted:* Motion by R. G. Mayfield that Secretarial Council meet in the afternoon of January 24, 1953, at Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania, on schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT G. MAYFIELD, *Secretary*

Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania

January 26, 1953

The Secretarial Council of the Interboard Commission on the Local Church met on January 26, 1953, in THE INN, Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania. The following were present: J. Q. Schisler, J. O. Gross, Harry Denman, Henry M. Bullock, Robert G. Mayfield.

15. *Voted:* Motion made by Dr. Denman, seconded by Dr. Gross, that the Board of Education and Board of Evangelism invite all members of the Council of Bishops to attend the meeting of their Boards.

16. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Denman, and seconded by Robert G. Mayfield, that members of the Board of Education, and the members of the Staff and Executive Committee of the Board of Lay Activities be invited to attend the dedicatory service of the Upper Room Chapel in the Board of Evangelism Building on Wednesday night, April 8.

17. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Gross, seconded by Dr. Bullock, that the Interboard Commission on the Local Church meet on Friday afternoon, April 10, in Nashville at a place to be determined later.

18. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Gross, seconded by Dr. Denman, that we try to plan a joint banquet for all members of the Board of Education, Board of Evangelism, and Executive Committee of the Board of Lay Activities and their Staff for Friday evening, April 10.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT G. MAYFIELD, *Secretary*

MINUTES OF
INTERBOARD STAFF MEETING
Interboard Commission on the Local Church

Nashville, Tennessee

December 19, 1952

The Joint Staffs of the General Board of Evangelism, the General Board of Lay Activities, and of the three divisions of the General Board of Education met at 10:00 A.M. on December 19, 1952, in the Board of Education building in Nashville.

Dr. John Q. Schisler presided.

Mr. Robert G. Mayfield was elected secretary.

The following members of the staff of the Division of the Educational Institutions were presented by Dr. Gross: J. Lem Stokes, II, W. A. Rush, Boyd M. McKeown, Henry Koestline, Corliss P. Hargraves, J. Richard Spann, Stanley H. Martin, Harvey C. Brown.

The following members of the Board of Evangelism staff were presented by Dr. Denman: J. W. Golden, G. Ernest Thomas, Eugene E. Golay, C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., Harold L. Hermann, R. Q. Chilcote, Brooks B. Little, Geo. H. Jones, Gordon P. Baker, John G. Walton, Harry L. Williams, Leroy H. Walker, J. Lester McGee, Jos. T. Edwards, D. E. Jackson, Howard W. Ellis, Joseph H. Edge, Harold S. Rogers.

The following members of the Board of Lay Activities staff were presented by Mr. Mayfield: W. Rolfe Brown, J. Herbert Touchstone, E. Lamont Geissinger, Shelby E. Southard, Robert C. Williams.

The following members of the staff of the Editorial Division were presented by Dr. Ford in the absence of Dr. Bowen (Dr. Bowen was present later in the meeting): Joy Bayless, Minnie W. Gentry, Earl C. Parker, Lyndon B. Phifer, Woodrow Geier, J. Josephine Leamer, J. Emerson Ford, Rosemary Roorbach, Anna Hensley.

The following members of the Local Church Division staff were presented by Dr. Schisler: N. F. Forsyth, Luke G. Beau-

champ, Jessie Mae Beck, Richard G. Belcher, Joseph W. Bell, LaDonna Bogardus, Wallace Chappell, M. Earl Cunningham, Doris P. Dennison, Harold W. Ewing, Virginia Henry, Mary Alice Jones, A. Argyle Knight, J. Irvin McDonough, Frances C. McLester, M. Leo Rippy, Blanche C. Sloan, Virginia Stafford, Edward D. Staples, Florence Teague, Edwin F. Tewksbury, May L. Titus, Walter Towner, Horace W. Williams, Vera V. Zimmerman.

1. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Denman that the secretary send a telegram from the group to Dr. Henry M. Bullock, Pastor of Capitol Street Methodist Church, Jackson, Mississippi, welcoming him to our group as the new Executive Secretary of the Editorial Division. Carried.

Mr. Mayfield reported on the recent meeting of the Secretarial Council of the Interboard Commission on the Local Church.

Under discussion of the new legislation for the local church, reports were made on the legislation covering the four new mandatory commissions. The Commission on Membership and Evangelism, the Commission on Education, the Commission on Missions, and the Commission on Finance, were reported on by Dr. Denman, Dr. Towner, Dr. Williams, and Mr. W. Rolfe Brown, respectively.

2. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Denman that the secretary be instructed to write to Bishop Harrell thanking him for his recent booklet entitled, *The Local Church in Methodism.* Carried.

3. *Voted:* Motion was made that we thank The Methodist Publishing House for the book and for its free distribution to the Pastors. Carried.

4. *Voted:* The matter was referred to the Secretarial Council concerning representatives of the Radio and Film Commission, the Joint Section of Education and Cultivation, and The Methodist Publishing House being invited to sit with our group in its meetings.

5. *Voted:* That the meeting should adjourn at 3:30 P.M. Carried.

Dr. Bowen spoke on the need for a united approach to the local church.

Dr. Gross spoke on the desirability of unity in actions taken.

Discussion was made concerning whether the Secretarial Council should establish a committee to review materials to be sent to the local churches with a view to achieving unity.

6. *Voted:* On motion by Dr. Denman, Paragraphs 1320 and 1322 of the *Discipline* were referred to the Secretarial Council and the Council was asked to make a recommendation to the Interboard Commission concerning the advisability of an Interboard Committee to review materials. Carried.

The following resolution was presented by Dr. Denman and was adopted:

"We, the joint staffs of the Boards comprising the Interboard Commission on the Local Church, in session in Nashville, December 19, rejoice in the activities of the several Episcopal Areas in the raising of funds and the taking of Advance Specials for the starting of new churches and church schools.

"We believe that every child should have a church in which to grow and develop. We believe that the great need of 1953 in the life of Methodism is the starting of additional church schools and churches in new and neglected communities. It is the evangelistic genius of Methodism to go to every community with the gospel.

"We are happy to learn that many districts are uniting in the effort to organize new churches. We note that many of our large city churches are giving themselves to the task of organizing new churches and church schools.

"We believe that the organization of many new churches today will result in many persons being won for Christ today and tomorrow.

"We pledge ourselves to assist any district, annual Conference, or Episcopal Area in this truly needed work."

7. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Williams that the Secretarial Council make the decision as to the date and place for the next Interboard Staff meeting, and that in preparation for the next meeting the following items be listed:

a. What each department is doing;
b. Specific items be assigned to persons to be delved into and brought before meeting;
c. Each staff member to suggest agenda. Carried.

The secretary was requested to send a copy of these minutes to each staff member.

8. *Voted:* Motion by Dr. Denman that we recommend that the Interboard Commission on the Local Church issue a manual on the work of the four commissions in the local church, and that the Secretarial Council select an editor to write this manual from the materials furnished by the several boards comprising the Interboard Commission on the Local Church—the Board of Missions to join with us in the publishing of this manual. We recommend that this manual be sold to churches at the lowest possible price in order to insure a wide distribution. Carried.

After a period of devotions led by Dr. G. Ernest Thomas the meeting adjourned.

MINUTES OF

THE COMMITTEE OF FIFTY

WORLD MISSION OF EVANGELISM

Washington, D. C.

August 29, 1952

The Committee of Fifty assembled at 10:00 A.M., Friday, August 29, 1952, in the Methodist Building at Washington, D. C.

Following devotions, Bishop W. Angie Smith was named chairman; Bishop Fred P. Corson, vice-chairman; and T. Otto Nall, secretary.

The agenda suggested by the Board of Evangelism was adopted. The roll was called. The chairman named the heads of the three committees scheduled to meet during the day—Bishop W. Earl Ledden for the Committee on Message, Bishop W. C. Martin for the Committee on Local Church Activities, and Bishop A. Frank Smith for the Committee on General Work.

A discussion of the task of world evangelism followed, with various members of the group making statements. Harry Denman said for the Board of Evangelism that the Bishops, Superintendents and pastors do the evangelistic task; the Board just helps. The Board wants the entire Church to get into the campaign with all its institutions and churches.

D. Stewart Patterson, of the Commission on Chaplains, spoke of the great opportunity for evangelism among the youth in military service. He said that the military has become the greatest educational force in the nation today because it has the greatest number of young people during an important period of their lives. "You can't take Joe Doakes in his sport shirt, slacks, sneakers, and put him in uniform and automatically make a man of him. He is scared, bewildered, homesick. He needs the spiritual ministry of the Church."

Weldon Crossland praised Harry Denman for planning the world crusade at Oxford. He urged that lay leaders and secretaries of evangelism be brought in effectively. "If this does not operate at the level of the local church," he said, "it will do little good."

Elmer T. Clark described the work that Methodists of other lands are doing in relation to the world-wide effort. He announced that a new missions textbook is to revolve around missions, that evangelism is to be studied as it stemmed from the life of John Wesley. He mentioned the evangelistic meeting at Lake Junaluska, beginning June 17 and commemorating the 250th anniversary of Wesley's birth.

Dawson Bryan said that he did not believe there is any such thing as world evangelism, that it is an individual, personal matter. "Ours is a voluntary compulsion," he said. He urged that all meetings be planned on a level where the local church can participate.

"The Board of Evangelism has come to the Kingdom for such a time," said Eugene L. Smith. The 1953 emphasis of the National Council of Churches is essentially evangelistic. It is related to the meeting of the International Missionary Council, held recently in Germany, and the meeting of the World Council of Churches in the United States in 1954. He moved that the Administrative Committee, which is to be the continuing agency of the Committee of Fifty, be asked to consult with the National Council of Churches on evangelistic plans. The motion was duly seconded and passed.

Ray W. Ragsdale recalled the evangelistic meeting at Albion, Michigan, in 1945 and related the present program to that. "Evangelism has since broken out in many places," he said. He mentioned two baffling problems—the loss of religious belief, and the loss of belief in the continuance of personal relationships after death.

Bishop Frank A. Smith asked whether there was to be a general plan, or the evangelistic program was to be left to the various Areas. Bishop W. Angie Smith replied that each Area and Conference was to determine its own program and time schedule. He outlined the highlights—Covenant Sunday, January 4, 1953, and the proposed convocation on evangelism, at Washington or Baltimore probably, on June 23-25. He stressed the necessity of evangelism in every church, hospital, and college, as well as evangelism by every chaplain. The matter is to be presented in the Fall Conferences of 1952 and the Spring Conferences of 1953. He spoke of posters, commitment cards, calls to prayer, and other materials.

Harold Ewing, speaking for youth, mentioned the current emphasis on recommitment of life. He quoted recent youth meetings and their repeated cry, "We need to reach youth." Young people need to be captured with a message that puts Christ at the center. The work camps and other evangelistic meetings can be used.

Following luncheon and the meetings of the three committees, the Committee of Fifty reconvened at 2:00 P.M.

Harry C. Spencer, reporting for the Committee on General Work, presented a resolution requesting "that the Administrative Committee be inclusive of representatives of the Boards and Agencies of the Church, and that the Administrative Committee seek to relate this evangelistic emphasis to the ongoing program of the Boards and Agencies." The motion was seconded and passed.

Bishop W. Angie Smith announced the membership of the Administrative Committee: the chairman of the Committee of Fifty, the vice-chairman of the Committee of Fifty, the corresponding secretary, the president of the Board of Missions, the president of the Board of Education, the president of the Board of Lay Activities, the president of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, Bishop Roy H. Short for the Southeastern Jurisdiction, Bishop W. C. Martin for the South Central Jurisdiction, Bishop M. W. Clair, Jr., for the Central Jurisdiction, Truman Potter for the North Central Jurisdiction, Weldon Crossland for the Northeastern Jurisdiction, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Oscar T. Olson, Elmer T. Clark, Harry

Denman, J. Manning Potts, John Q. Schisler, Earl Brown, J. A. Engle, John O. Gross, Eugene L. Smith, D. Stewart Patterson, and R. G. Mayfield.

Eugene L. Smith asked if the Administrative Committee could "co-opt" additional persons, and the answer was "yes."

Elmer T. Clark, reporting for the Committee on Message, read a message stressing the importance of evangelism, personal and social, and outlining the history of the movement for a world-wide evangelistic crusade, as well as some proposed steps. It was voted that the message be sent by Bishop Ledden to members of the Committee of Fifty, for their suggestions, and returned to the office of the Board of Evangelism within 15 days.

Edward J. Pendergrass, reporting for the Committee on Local Church Activities, recommended the observance of Covenant Communion Sunday on January 4, 1953, with the four Sundays of Advent in 1952 serving as a time of preparation for the crusade. Pamphlets, a prayer covenant card, and other materials would be printed. Lay people would be used as leaders in charges where there is more than one preaching place. In planning meetings, the Board of Evangelism and the Board of Lay Activities would use Jurisdiction, Area, Conference, and District sections. Youth camps would be included. The evangelism committees of the Conferences would be pressed into service. The goals and objectives, the scheduling of definite dates, and the planning of literature would be left to the Administrative Committee.

These proposals were considered separately and passed: That the time and place of the evangelistic convocation be left to this committee; that pamphlet material offer proposals for two types of evangelism—preaching-visitation and visitation; that every agency of the Church, including youth assemblies and periodicals, be used in the mission.

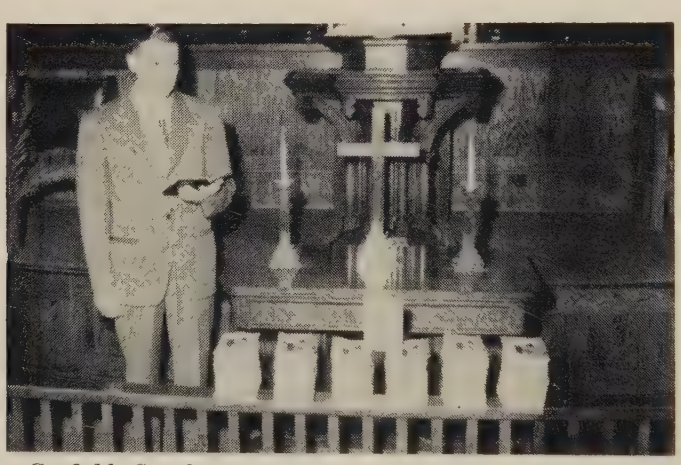
Harry Denman suggested that Bishop W. Angie Smith take the greetings of the Committee of Fifty to the Conferences he is to visit in Latin America and that other Bishops going abroad take similar greetings. The motion was seconded and passed.

Bishop A. Frank Smith asked whether literature was to be sold or given away. Harry Denman replied that it has been the policy of the Board of Evangelism to sell its literature. "There should be no assessment on the churches."

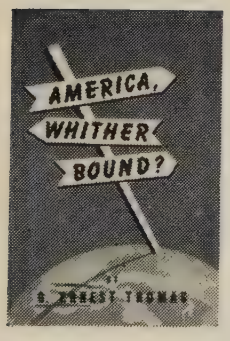
Karl P. Meister asked that the statement on evangelism be ready for the board meeting in Chicago.

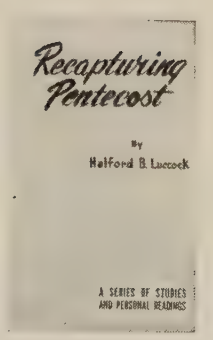
Following devotions, the committee adjourned at 3:30 o'clock.

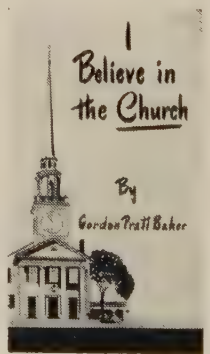
T. Otto Nall,
Secretary



Garfield Steedman, pastor of The Methodist Church, Lapel, Indiana, dedicates copies of *The Upper Room*, which will be distributed to members of his congregation through the Parish Cultivation Plan.







MINUTES OF

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OF FIFTY

Chicago, Illinois

September 11, 1952

The Administrative Committee of the Committee of Fifty met at the Chicago Temple, Thursday, September 11, 1952, at 7:30 P.M. Dr. Harry Denman served as chairman, in the absence of Bishops W. Angie Smith and Fred P. Corson. These members were present: Ray H. Nichols, Mrs. Frank G. Brooks, Bishop W. C. Martin, Bishop M. W. Clair, Jr., Truman W. Potter, Weldon Crossland, Elmer T. Clark, J. Manning Potts, J. Q. Schisler, J. A. Engle, John O. Gross, D. Stewart Patterson, Karl A. Quimby, Luther W. Wells, and T. Otto Nall.

Ray H. Nichols led in the devotions.

The discussion began with consideration of the problem of locating the evangelistic convocation in June of next year. Stewart Patterson reported that Washington would have certain shortcomings—the high price of hotel accommodations, the fact that the armory is on the side of town, the problem of entertaining all people. The report from Bishop Corson was that in Philadelphia the stadium could probably be filled with 75,000 people.

Ray H. Nichols moved and Truman W. Potter seconded the proposal that Baltimore be considered first and Philadelphia second. The motion passed.

Bishop Clair moved and Ray H. Nichols seconded the plan for holding the convocation on June 26-28, 1953, which would clear all except two major Annual Conferences. June 27 could be observed as the birthday anniversary of John Wesley. The motion was passed.

Discussion of the program brought out a number of suggestions: That Dr. W. E. Sangster be invited as one of the speakers; that the layman who spoke for evangelism at Oxford in 1951 be invited; that some attention be given to the British preachers who would be in this country on a summer exchange; that Methodist senators, congressmen, and other officials in Washington be recognized in some special way; that Charles Malek, Lebanese representative at the United Nations, be invited; that some 200 outstanding Methodists across the country be put on a sponsoring committee; that the attention of Methodists in Canada and the West Indies be enlisted; that J. Arthur Rank, or some comparable Methodist layman from England, be invited; that an English choir be brought over to sing Wesleyan hymns; that local Methodist preachers be invited from England to tell of their work and their part in the Methodist movement there.

Harry Denman suggested that ministers and laymen attending the convocation be used in the pulpits of Baltimore and vicinity on Sunday, June 28. The possibility of using a minister and layman as a team was put forward. Bishop Martin spoke of the plan used as a preaching program at Sioux City, Ia., during the town and country convocation.

Other suggestions included: The use of young people; plans for dramatics and singing; an invitation to John Charles Thomas to do what he did at the General Conference in San Francisco; the possibility of Dr. James Houghton leading an evening of evangelistic singing; the use of sections for discussion (divided into men, women, and youth, or divided into art, hymnody, and such).

Discussion of a title for the convocation resulted in a number of suggestions: "Birth and Re-birth," the title of a pamphlet to be used next June; "Ye Are My Witnesses"; and "World Witnesses."

The suggestion was made that the convocation ought to lift up the place of experience in the Methodist scheme of things. The hope was that such experience would lead directly to the evangelistic retreats in September of 1953, with evangelistic action following in October and November.

Elmer T. Clark moved and Truman W. Potter seconded that a committee of five be named to work on the objectives and program of the convocation. The motion was passed.

Elmer T. Clark moved and Weldon Crossland seconded that a committee of five on promotion be set up. The motion was passed.

It was agreed that the local committee would be appointed with the help of the Bishop in whose Area the convocation is to be held.

The suggestion was made that Covenant Sunday in 1953 be protected as a time for dedication, with the emphasis on prayer and witnessing. The Spring Conferences would be used for advertising and promoting the convocation. Bishop Martin agreed to present the matter to the Council of Bishops. The convocation would be made the big, Churchwide meeting of 1953.

The committee session adjourned at 9:10 P.M., after prayer by Bishop Clair.

Chicago, Illinois

November 6, 1952

The committee convened at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, at 10:00 A.M. on November 6, 1952, with Bishop Fred P. Corson presiding.

The following persons were present: Bishop Fred P. Corson, Harry Denman, George A. Fallon, Harry L. Williams, J. Manning Potts, John Q. Schisler, Elmer T. Clark, George H. Jones, Harry C. Spencer, Leon T. Moore, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Bishop Matthew W. Clair, Bishop Roy H. Short, Oscar T. Olson, Thelma Stevens, Bishop Earl Ledden, J. Arthur West, R. G. Mayfield, and Stanley G. Lynch.

Various items of business brought before the committee:

1. Harry Denman explained in general the program for the year of 1953.

2. *Voted:* Upon motion of Bishop Short, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Location for the Convocation, Philadelphia was designated as the place where the Convocation will be held.

3. J. Manning Potts presented a suggested Program for the Convocation.

4. *Voted:* Upon motion of Bishop Short, it was voted to set up a committee to study the possibility of sending representatives or fraternal messengers to the other autonomous Churches of Methodism in observance of the World Mission of Evangelism. The following persons were designated as members of this committee:

President of the Council of Bishops

President of the World Methodist Council

Secretary of the World Methodist Council

President of the Board of Evangelism

Executive Secretary of the Board of Evangelism

President of the Board of Missions

Chairman of Administrative Committee of Committee of Fifty

Discussion suggested that these representatives or fraternal messengers should include not only Bishops but ministers and laymen as well.

5. *Voted:* That the Saturday morning session of the Convocation be built around the theme of "the Holy Spirit and the Living Christ."

6. *Voted:* That the Board of Evangelism be authorized to sign contracts for the rental of Academy Hall and Franklin Field, Philadelphia.

7. *Voted:* That Stanley G. Lynch of Philadelphia be elected as treasurer of the Convocation.

8. *Voted:* That the Program Committee should develop the details of the program in accordance with the suggestions brought out in the discussion and report from time to time to the Administrative Committee.

9. *Voted:* That the Chairman appoint a sub-committee composed of Bishops Holt, Ledden, W. Angie Smith, and Corson to cooperate with J. Manning Potts in choosing the persons who shall be invited to be the speakers for the Convocation.

10. Harry L. Williams presented the report of the Committee on Publicity.

11. *Voted:* That the staffs of all cooperating Boards and Agencies be contacted by the Board of Evangelism advising them of the suggested ways of cooperation and asking that each Board make additional suggestions of methods of cooperation.

12. *Voted:* That all other autonomous Methodist Churches be contacted and urged to observe or celebrate the Wesley anniversary at the same time with a great emphasis on evangelism.

13. Discussion—It is the responsibility of the Committee on Publicity (Bishop Ledden) to get the leadership of the whole Church to attend the World Methodist Convocation on Evangelism; it is the responsibility of the local committee (Philadelphia) to get out the people of Greater Philadelphia to attend the Mass meeting on Sunday afternoon.

14. *Voted:* That a Committee on Arrangements be set up and that it be composed of:

Executive Secretary of Board of Evangelism

Three Staff Members of the Board of Evangelism

Four persons from Philadelphia

15. *Voted:* That Bishop Ledden bring before the next meeting of the Council of Bishops the plans for the Convocation and Program for 1953, inviting the Council to issue a proclamation on it.

16. *Voted:* That we request and urge each District and/or Annual Conference to make provision for funds for travel of official delegates to the Convocation.

17. *Voted:* That the Chairman appoint a Committee to study the approximate cost of the six official delegates (District Superintendent, two ministers, two laymen—one man and one woman—and one youth from each District) and to try to equalize the cost for each Annual Conference; that this committee be composed of the following persons: D. E. Jackson, Leon T. Moore, and J. Arthur West.

18. *Voted:* That Harry Denman write the President of the College of Bishops of the Northeastern Jurisdiction and request them to merge their general Jurisdictional meeting with the Convocation.

Adjournment was made at 3:30 P.M.

Report of the Building Committee

The Laying of the Cornerstone

The laying of the cornerstone for The Upper Room Chapel and the headquarters building of the General Board of Evangelism of The Methodist Church took place on March 5, 1952, at 4:30 P.M. at 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee. A special ritual service had been prepared, and was used with great effectiveness.

Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, president of the Board of Evangelism, presided. Bishop W. Earl Ledden, offered the invocation; Bishop Arthur J. Moore, president of the Council of Bishops, led in prayer. The Old Testament lesson, the responsive reading, was led by Bishop Paul B. Kern, vice-president of the Board of Evangelism. Dr. Harry Denman, executive secretary of the Board of Evangelism, read the New Testament lesson. The ritual prayer was read by Bishop Roy H. Short, former editor of THE UPPER ROOM. The litany for the cornerstone laying was led by Bishop Cushman with the responses by the people. Dr. J. Manning Potts, editor of THE UPPER ROOM, presented the box to be placed in the cornerstone. A short paper, calling attention to the materials placed in the cornerstone, was read and put in the box. Bishop Cushman, chairman of the General Building Committee, and Mrs. B. A. Whitmore, chairman of the Local Building Committee, and members of the Committee had charge of the laying of the cornerstone. The benediction was pronounced by Bishop Fred P. Corson, president of the Board of Education.

It was a beautiful afternoon. The weather was slightly cool but not unpleasant. A large crowd of persons attended the service. The program was arranged with the cooperation of the staff of the Board of Education, and through the kindness of the Board of Education time was made available for the special service.

April 1, 1952

See Items 274-277 in the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of April 1, 1952, for items concerning the new building and the cornerstone ceremonies.

June 20, 1952 — Nashville, Tennessee

The Local Building Committee met at the Third National Bank, Nashville, on Friday, June 20, at 2:30 P.M. B. A. Whitmore was in the chair. Those present were Mrs. W. M. Alexander, Harry Denman, D. E. Jackson, the architects, Messrs. Hart and Roberts, and J. Manning Potts, secretary.

Dr. Denman made a statement in reference to the organization of the new quadrennial Board of Evangelism. He announced that Bishop Angie Smith is the chairman and that he will be here for inspection of the building on July 30.

Mr. Roberts reported progress on the building. He hoped by September 1 that the shipping space will be ready for occupancy. He reported on the visit that Mr. Hart, Mr. Roberts, and Manning Potts made to Boston to see the wood carving of "The Last Supper." The agreement is that it will be finished by November 15. Mr. Roberts thought that the room, the wall, the stairsteps and the ceiling would be on the first floor by July 30 when Bishop Smith visits Nashville.

Mr. Roberts recommended that the floor of the chancel be wood instead of rubber tile as planned in the contract. The cost would be an additional $175.00. Voted.

Mr. Roberts recommended walkways to be laid in brick. The extra cost over the concrete would be $2,062.00. Voted to recommend to the executive committee that this be done, and he was also directed to get the cost of the brick sustaining wall.

The secretary announced that two memorial gifts had been given, the table at a cost of $700.00 by Mrs. E. V. Moorman and the pulpit at a cost of $4,500.00 by the First Methodist Church of Birmingham, Alabama, in honor of Dr. Denman.

There was some discussion as to the height of the back of the pews to be placed in the chapel. The architects were asked to look into this and Mrs. Alexander was appointed to work with them.

The purchase of the candlesticks for the chapel and the prayer room was approved. These are antique silver and date back to the Georgian period. The candlesticks for the chapel were secured at a cost of $350.00 and those for the prayer room at a cost of $300.00.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

J. MANNING POTTS, *Secretary*

The above Minutes were approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting on August 29, 1952.

December 8, 1952 — Nashville, Tennessee

The Local Building Committee met at the Third National Bank, Nashville, on December 8, at 9:00 o'clock. B. A. Whitmore was in the chair, and all members were present: namely, Mr. Whitmore, E. W. Turnley, Mrs. W. M. Alexander, Harry Denman, D. E. Jackson, and Manning Potts.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and they were approved.

D. E. Jackson recommended that three necessary installations be approved: Venetian blinds, $1,067.42; I.B.M. clocks, $1,540.00; shelving for literature, $5,788.23. Voted.

Manning Potts recommended that the cost of tapestries for the chancel and the installation of same be approved at a cost of $1,978.00. Voted.

Bids submitted for cushions and drapes: cushions, $3,465.55 and drapes, $2,965.30. A motion was made to get two other bids on these items and to recommend to the Executive Committee that the work be done. Voted.

It was voted that all employees and staff, not already in the new building, be moved to it on December 13.

It was voted to have official opening of building on Maundy Thursday, April 2.

It was decided to have another meeting to check up on everything about January 5.

It was voted that Mrs. W. M. Alexander and D. E. Jackson in conference with Dr. Denman be a committee to furnish Dr. Denman's apartment and office in keeping with the building.

On recommendation of the architects, it was voted to close the chapel to the public until completed.

Adjournment was voted and made.

Respectfully submitted,

J. MANNING POTTS, *Secretary*

The Executive Committee adopted these Minutes on December 11, 1952.

January 9, 1953 — Nashville, Tennessee

The Local Building Committee met in the office of the editor of THE UPPER ROOM, 1908 Grand Avenue, January 9, 1953, at 4:00 o'clock. Those present were B. A. Whitmore, E. W. Turnley, Mrs. W. M. Alexander, Harry Denman, D. E. Jackson, Mr. Roberts, the architect, and J. Manning Potts.

Dr. Denman opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes were read and approved.

D. E. Jackson reported on bids on the drapes and cushions. There was an additional bid on the draperies, but it was not clear. It was agreed that more information was to be obtained and that the matter of the drapes and cushions be settled, if possible, within a week.

Dr. Denman reported on the Maundy Thursday suggestion which had been carried to the Executive Committee, and it was voted to reconsider the whole Maundy Thursday idea.

Dr. Denman recommended and it was voted that the "Official Opening" take place on April 8, 9, and 10, with the "Nashville Opening" to be on April 12.

Dr. Denman asked that the Local Building Committee issue the invitation for Sunday afternoon, April 12, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., and this was voted.

Dr. Denman reported with gratitude that Mr. and Mrs. Turnley will furnish his apartment in the new building. Mr. Whitehall Morrison has provided a chair for Dr. Denman's room.

Dr. Denman reported on the meeting of Denman, Jackson, and Potts with the architects last week. The architects have been notified of opening dates and urged to get things going more rapidly.

Mr. Roberts reported on the dates of delivery of materials. He was explicit in saying that the chapel would be finished for the opening. However he was not willing to say that the cushions and the draperies could be provided in time.

The meeting adjourned to see the woodcarving which was being installed by Irving, Casson, and Davenport.

Respectfully submitted,

J. MANNING POTTS, *Secretary*

Gifts to the Chapel

The gifts which have been made to the furnishings of the chapel to date are: Mrs. E. V. Moorman, the Communion table; First Methodist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, the pulpit; Dr. Guy O. Carpenter, the chalices for the chapel and the prayer room; Mrs. W. M. Alexander, the pulpit chairs; Miss Eunice Laird, the chancel rail for the prayer room; Mrs. Anna Mitchell, candlesticks in the prayer room; Mr. William Ferrell, the Book of Remembrance. The pulpit Bible has been presented by Mr. Lovick Pierce. The Communion set, the Communion pitcher, the collection plates, and other things have been presented by members of the staff. The table runner and the Communion cloths for the chapel have been presented by Misses Annie and Clarice Winstead.

In addition, furnishings for the apartment of Dr. Harry Denman have been presented by Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Turnley, Mr. White Hall Morrison, Mr. John S. Bransford, and the Lucinda B. Helm Methodist Church, Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Call to Evangelism

in the

World Wide Mission of Evangelism

Adopted by

The Committee of Fifty

The year ahead will bring dramatic demonstration that "the Methodists are one people in all the world." For 1953 has been designated as Methodism's year of evangelism.

The call was issued by the World Methodist Council meeting in Oxford in 1951. Responses are coming from Great Britain, the continent of Europe, South America, Asia, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and elsewhere in our world parish. It is evident that to our global Household of Faith the summons to evangelism is both familiar and foremost.

The General Conference, meeting in San Francisco, reached its high point in the adoption of a noble resolution on "The World Wide Mission of Evangelism." The action made this evangelistic crusade "an integral part of whatever forward movement the General Conference might adopt," and instructed all the Boards and Agencies of the Church to participate in this supreme spiritual undertaking.

The priority of this official "Call to Evangelism" is validated in the conviction of Methodists everywhere that evangelism is the most urgent need of our time; that never have men, as individuals and as nations, faced such desperate circumstances as now confront them, or known so deep a longing for a confident faith with which to meet the challenge of evil forces. The evangelism which will save the present age cannot be shallow. It must root in a personal knowledge of God and in commitment to His will; it must make itself felt in the social processes so that the will and the love of God may be more fully expressed through the agencies of our social order. Such Christian evangelism is based on firm and spiritual foundations long established in Methodist history and belief.

Members of the Committee of Fifty and some Staff Members who met with them in Washington, D. C., on August 29, 1952.

The Committee of Fifty, appointed by the General Board of Evangelism as authorized by the General Conference, transmits this "Call to Evangelism" issued by the World Methodist Council and the Methodist General Conference. We call upon all Methodists—whether laymen, pastors, District Superintendents, or Bishops—to join forces in this World Program of Evangelism to help win the world for Christ. We urge every local church to make intensive evangelistic preparation from World Wide Communion Sunday, October 5, 1952, to the Watch Night Service on December 31, 1952.

Significant evangelistic opportunities are to be found in the Advent Season and the traditional Watch Night Service consecrating the New Year to the glory of God. A Communion Covenant Service should be held in every Methodist church on its first preaching Sunday in January. The Lenten Season and Easter provide rich occasions for evangelistic emphases. Pentecost Sunday, May 24, which in the year 1953 is also Aldersgate Day, ought to be a notable date in the church year. The 250th anniversary of John Wesley's birth, celebrated on June 17, 1953, may well be used as the basis of an evangelistic program to inspire every member. The month of October, 1953, should witness the climax of this spiritual movement, with every local church in Methodism promoting the most intensive and fruitful program of evangelism ever undertaken. Throughout all this period, let the radio, television, motion pictures, newspapers, and all known media of communication, especially person-to-person contacts, be used to win men for Christ and His Church.

All of these plans are intended to supplement and strengthen the evangelistic efforts of Areas, Conferences, and local churches as they develop their own programs and spiritual strategy. We millions of Methodists could, under God, change the moral climate of the world in 1953—make it, indeed, the Year of Our Lord—if in all lands we would yield heart and hand to this high and historic summons to "offer men Christ."

BISHOP W. EARL LEDDEN,

Chairman, Sub-Committee

Functions of the Various Departments

of the General Board of Evangelism as Adopted by the Board on August 1, 1952

Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods

1. To inspire, initiate, organize, and give field direction to United Evangelistic Missions on District, Conference, Area, and Jurisdictional levels.

2. To direct the taking of religious census surveys on all levels.

3. To direct Visitation Evangelism campaigns on District, Conference, and Area levels.

4. To discover, develop, and train evangelistic leadership.

5. To explore and conduct research in evangelistic methods and procedures—including religious census, and personal, visitation, and pulpit evangelism—and to pilot-test these methods in field projects.

6. To create materials for finding prospects, and also for personal, visitation and pulpit evangelism—in cooperation with the Tidings Department.

7. To promote in the field the use of evangelistic and devotional materials.

Department of Negro Work

1. To promote intensively all kinds of evangelism among Negroes, emphasizing the work of all the departments of the General Board of Evangelism.

2. To train ministers and laymen in all methods of evangelism in Annual Conferences, Districts, sub-districts, and local churches.

3. To direct United Evangelistic Missions and Spiritual Life Missions.

Department of Spiritual Life

1. To conduct and promote Spiritual Life Missions.—It shall be the purpose of these Missions to deepen the spiritual experience of every church member, through preaching and by visitation in the homes, and to enlist members in the observance of the Holy Habits of our faith.

These Missions shall be held in Districts, Conferences, and Areas. It is desired that every church shall have a Spiritual Life Mission as a part of its regular annual program.

2. To conduct and promote Prayer Retreats for Ministers.—To provide leadership for Prayer Retreats. To give leadership in suggesting the most useful and helpful patterns for Retreats. To encourage every Conference and District to include a Retreat in its Annual Program.

3. To conduct and promote United Spiritual Life and Evangelistic Retreats for Laymen. This is to be done in cooperation with the General Board of Lay Activities.

4. To train and give direction in developing disciples.—Through cooperation with United Evangelistic Missions. Through District Institutes.

5. To promote in the field the use of the approved membership materials and of evangelistic and devotional literature.

Department of Business

1. To receive all funds and credit to proper accounts.

2. To pay all bills, including salaries and travel accounts.

3. To see that all Departments stay within approved budgets.

4. To manage all funds and properties.

5. To secure bids for printing and place all orders for printing and purchase of supplies.

6. To ship and mail all our literature and other printed materials.

7. To employ and have general supervision of all employees other than staff personnel.

Tidings Department of Evangelistic Literature

1. To print evangelistic literature for all Departments of the Board.

2. To cooperate closely with all Departments of the Board, and to assist them to promote their work through the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in the local church by *Shepherds* magazine and other literature and materials.

3. To promote evangelism and the devotional life in the local church by providing *Shepherds* magazine for the local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism.

4. To produce and publish evangelistic literature and materials for the use of pastor and Commissions on Membership and Evangelism in membership and evangelism campaigns, and for the promotion of the special days, weeks, and seasons that are used for evangelism.

5. To make available our evangelistic materials to other denominations and to non-church agencies.

Department of Local Church Evangelism

1. To assist the local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism to carry out the program of evangelism and devotional life adopted by the General Conference for this Commission. (¶ 221-22, 2030 of 1952 *Discipline*.)

2. To promote all plans and methods of evangelism in the local church, to the end that every local church shall have a well-rounded and full program of evangelism the year round.

3. To plan and promote local church programs of evangelism suited to the needs of the individual churches.

4. To promote evangelism in the local church by the use of *Shepherds* magazine and other Tidings literature.

5. To promote the devotional life of the local church by the use of *The Upper Room* and related materials.

Department of Organization and Administration

1. To provide "guidance and help to the Jurisdictional boards of evangelism, the Conference boards of evangelism, and the District committees on evangelism" (*Daily Advocate*, p. 186) and to assist them in accomplishing their work.

2. To enlist guest pastors and personnel for United Evangelistic Missions, Spiritual Life Retreats, and United Spiritual Life Missions.

3. To cooperate with the other Departments in United Evangelistic Missions, United Spiritual Life Missions, Youth Work Camps, and Christian Workers Schools by enlisting leaders and speakers.

4. To care for essential details, inquiries, and correspondence.

5. To set up program for the annual meeting of the Conference Secretaries of Evangelism and for the annual meeting of the General Board of Evangelism.

6. To compile and make available statistical information concerning membership and evangelism.

7. To keep a file of all members of General, Jurisdictional, Conference, and District Boards of Evangelism, and of all the chairmen of local church commissions on membership and evangelism.

8. To maintain relationship and work with Conference Evangelists and the Association of Conference Evangelists.

9. To receive "letters of notification" on behalf of the Board of Evangelism and to forward them to proper persons.

Upper Room Department of Devotional Literature

I. To provide devotional and related literature and materials in four areas:

1. THE UPPER ROOM—Now published in 20 editions: English, English Pocket, English (Australian), English (India), Braille, Armenian, Swedish, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog (Philippines), Ilocano (Philippines), Spanish, Japanese, Norwegian, Greek, Arabic, Italian, Persian Urdu, Telugu, and Hindi.

2. THE UPPER ROOM PULPIT—a monthly magazine of sermons and devotional preaching material.

3. Devotional Literature—such as *The Pocket Book of Prayer, The Pocket Book of Faith, The Prayer Series, The Comfort Series.*

4. Devotional Radio and Audio-Visual materials. Electrical transcriptions of musical and dramatic nature:

a. Family Week Radio Series
b. "Music for the Soul" Series
c. Lenten Series
d. Holy Week Series
e. Advent Series, etc.

II. To cooperate with the Board of Education and other church and national agencies in the Christian Family emphasis, especially in the field of family devotions.

Upper Room Department of Family Life

1. To cultivate family devotions and related family life movements through the ministry of *The Upper Room.*

2. To cooperate with other Methodist family movements, the Board of Education, women, etc.

3. To cooperate with other interdenominational agencies working in family life movements.

4. To produce devotional material for the family.

5. To cooperate with the Upper Room Radio Parish in development of Family Life Transcription Programs.

Department of Community Evangelism

Community Evangelism

1. To discover and develop effective methods for mass evangelism today.

2. To meet the needs of a growing demand for leadership in organizing mass evangelism on a community level.

3. To organize and direct community crusades in mass evangelism.

4. To discover and train leadership for mass evangelism crusades.

5. To provide a united Protestant approach in evangelistic endeavors.

Church Attendance

1. To promote church loyalty and church attendance, so that attending church every Sunday will be the normal thing for every church member to do.

2. To reach the non-church member and bring him to church, so that America may be a nation of church-going people.

In carrying out the above functions, the Department will:

Develop techniques and programs of home visitation to promote church loyalty and attendance.

Create materials for advertising and promoting church loyalty and attendance crusade, like the "See You in Church Sunday" and "Give God a Chance" materials.

Field-test some "See You in Church Sunday," and/or "Give God a Chance," or similar crusades on an inter-denominational city-wide basis.

Field-test some of these crusades on a local church and District basis.

Train leadership in the best methods of promoting church attendance.

3. To bring back the reverence for the holy Sabbath day, "the Lord's day," that our generation has so nearly lost.

4. To make the Sunday night service once more an evangelistic power. In doing this, the Department will use the "Sunday night revival" idea, the "fill-a-pew" plan, and various other types of projects.

5. To give direction for enriched worship services, with especial emphasis upon variety, warmth, friendliness, and interest, in order to make those who attend desire to come back.

Co-Operative Department of Youth Evangelism

Proposal:

The Director of the Department of Youth Evangelism shall be elected by the Board of Evangelism, subject to confirmation of the Board of Education.

Salary and office and Department budget will be provided by the Board of Evangelism.

The Director shall have staff relationship to the Youth Department of the Division of the Local Church and student Department of the Board of Education with responsibility for creative development of a unified program of youth evangelism.

The functions of this Department will be determined by representatives of the Board of Evangelism, the Local Church Division of the Board of Education, and the Division of Educational Institutions of the Board of Education.

[See a statement of these functions in the report of the Co-operative Department of Youth Evangelism.]

Report of Executive Secretary

HARRY DENMAN

To the Members of the General Board of Evangelism The Methodist Church

Dear Friends and Co-workers:

It has been four years since the Board of Evangelism met in Nashville, Tennessee. We welcome you to this city in which is located our headquarters building. Nashville is proud of its Methodist Boards and Agencies. We have in Nashville the Meharry Medical School, the Board of Publications, the Board of Education, the Board of Evangelism, and Scarritt College for Christian Workers. Also, there are nearly 100 Methodist young men preparing for the ministry in the Vanderbilt School of Religion. Nashville is headquarters for the Radio and Film Commission, the Interboard Commission on Christian Vocations, the National Conference for Methodist Youth, the Gulfside Assembly, and the Regional Office of Methodist Information. Also located in Nashville are the several boards of the Tennessee Annual Conference and the office of the Bishop of the Nashville Area. We hope you will have the opportunity to see the buildings owned by The Methodist Church in Nashville, as well as some of our beautiful churches. We are sure you will want to see the Medical Arts Building (now the General Shoe Corporation) which is owned by the Board of Evangelism in trust for THE UPPER ROOM.

Our Board Members and Chairman

It is fitting that the first regular meeting of the Board of Evangelism for this quadrennium be held in Nashville, our headquarters. The organizational meeting of our board was held in Chicago on August 1, 1952. You will find the Minutes of this meeting on page 9. The membership of our Board is elected in the following manner: The chairman is elected by the Council of Bishops and represents the Church-at-large. Six Bishops are elected—one from each Jurisdiction—by the Council of Bishops. Two ministers, a layman, and a woman are elected from each Jurisdiction by the several Jurisdictional Conferences. Three young people are elected by the National Conference of Methodist Youth. Twelve members are elected from the Church-at-large by the Board.

Since our organizational meeting we have suffered the loss of one of our members in the death of Dr. C. N. Richmond, of St. Louis, Missouri, a ministerial member from the Central Jurisdiction. Later a resolution concerning his homegoing will be offered for your adoption. The College of Bishops of the Central Jurisdiction has elected Dr. J. Walt Moore, of Kansas City, Missouri, to fill this vacancy. We are very happy to have him as a member of this Board.

We wish to thank the Council of Bishops, the several Jurisdictional Conferences, the National Conference of Methodist Youth, and the Board of Evangelism for our splendid Board members for this quadrennium. They are worthy of leading our nation in evangelism.

We are very happy over the election of Bishop W. Angie Smith as our chairman and leader for this quadrennium. It was my privilege to be associated with him in the pastorate of First Methodist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. He was a true friend and pastor in my deepest sorrow. He was a member of the General Commission on Evangelism of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which elected me its Executive Secretary on June 1, 1938. As a pastor and as a Bishop he has given his time, his talents, and his leadership to evangelism. The Oklahoma-New Mexico Area, over which he presides, has one of the best evangelistic ratios of the nation, although Oklahoma is one of the four states in the Union which had a decrease in population during the past decade. Bishop W. Angie Smith, by experience and training, is highly qualified to be the evangelistic leader of The Methodist Church. We predict that we will have our greatest quadrennium under his chairmanship. He is always available for counsel and help.

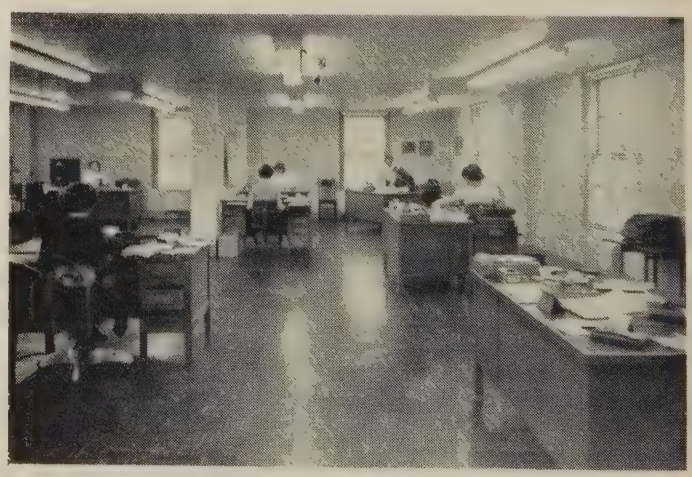
Our New Building

A complete report concerning our new building will be given you by J. Manning Potts, secretary of the Local Building Committee.

We must voice our appreciation to the Board of Evangelism for the quadrennium 1948-52 for its vision, faith, and daring to provide this commodious and beautiful building. Bishop Ledden said that if we could do all the work that we did in the five old ramshackled houses in which we were located, what would we do in a building like this one!

We wish to say that we dedicate ourselves to do a better job of evangelism because of our housing conditions.

I must say a few words in appreciation of Mr. D. E. Jackson, our very efficient business manager. He has lived with the construction of this building day and night for more than two years. He has given careful attention to every



The *Tidings* Order Department in the new building.

detail. J. Manning Potts has given very careful attention to the Upper Room Chapel. He has made it a thing of beauty and worship. He has studied and worked day and night on making the Upper Room Chapel worshipful.

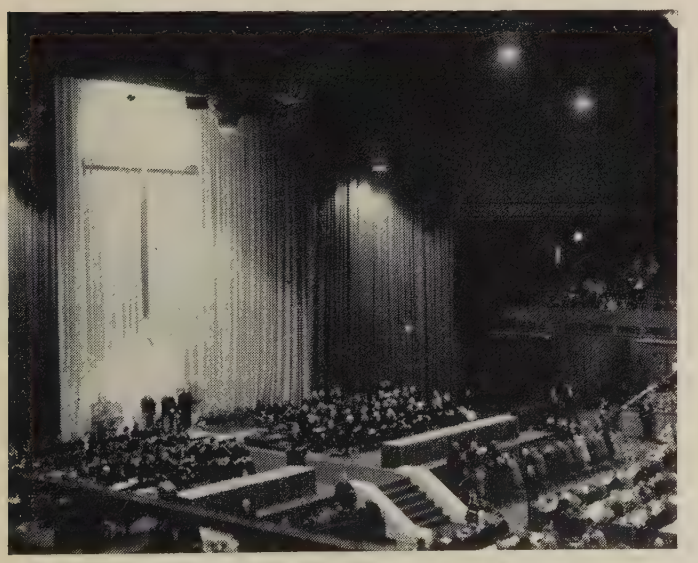
There is no need to say much about our new headquarters building. It speaks for itself. We are happy to be in it. A dream has been realized. The Local Building Committee, Mr. Ben A. Whitmore, chairman; E. W. Turnley; Mrs. W. M. Alexander; J. Manning Potts, secretary; D. E. Jackson; and the Executive Secretary have given faithful work to this task. We will always be thankful for our architects, Martin Roberts and Russell Hart, for the unusual interest they have taken in this building. Our consulting architect, O. C. Poundstone, of Atlanta, Georgia, helped in many ways. The employees of the Rock City Construction Company took a deep interest in the erection of this building.

There have been three meetings of the Executive Committee. You will want to approve the Minutes of these meetings which you will find on page 11.

The General Conference, 1952

The 1952 General Conference certainly was creative in the field of evangelism. First, on recommendation of the General Conference Commission on Legislation for the Local Church, it created the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in the local church and adopted a program of work for this Commission. The legislation creating a Commission on Membership and Evangelism in the local church is mandatory. This is the first time in our history that we have had proper legislation for evangelism in the local church. Also, it is the first time we have had a program of evangelism and devotional life for the local church adopted by the General Conference.

During this quadrennium we are giving major emphasis to the organizing and the functioning of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in every local church. We hope to make this Commission a dynamic group for evangelism in every local church. When we succeed in getting a functioning Commission on Membership and Evangelism in every local church there will be more than 600,000 persons working at evangelism. We hope that in the near future every member of the local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism will be a reader of SHEPHERDS magazine. The Department of Local Church Evangelism, C. Lloyd Daugherty, Director, has responsibility for this program of making the General Conference legislation pertaining to the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in the local church become alive and active.



The 1952 General Conference at San Francisco

The 1952 General Conference, upon recommendation of the Council on World Service and Finance, increased our ratio of the World Service dollar from 1.2% to 2.18%. We are thankful for the confidence and trust bestowed upon us by the Council of World Service and Finance. We desire to be worthy, and we dedicate ourselves anew to the task of evangelism. We want the 1952-56 quadrennium to be greater for evangelism than the previous one.

One of the joys of your Executive Secretary is being associated with the Council of World Service and Finance, under the leadership of its chairman, Bishop Clare Purcell, and its Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Thomas B. Lugg. The entire membership of this Council is interested in the program of work of the Board of Evangelism. The Council of World Service and Finance is sympathetic to our problems, rejoices in our victories, and stimulates us with their prayers and faith. The Council is anxious that our Church become a great evangelistic movement. We are most happy to have as our official representative from the Council on World Service and Finance to the Board of Evangelism Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Mr. Walter B. Rider, and Dr. Joseph S. Ploughe.

The 1952 General Conference related the Board of Evangelism to the Interboard Commission on the Local Church with the Boards of Education and Lay Activities. The Executive Secretaries of these three Boards form a Council of Secretaries as per legislation adopted by the General Conference. We have had several meetings. Please see Minutes on page 16. There has been held a meeting of the joint staffs of these three Boards. Please see Minutes on page 17.

The Interboard Commission on Local Church, composed of six persons from the Executive Committees of the Boards, will meet in Nashville on April 10.

World Mission of Evangelism

The 1952 General Conference adopted a program of World Mission on Evangelism and authorized the Board of Evangelism to appoint a Committee of 50 to promote this program of evangelism. The Board elected this Committee of 50 at the organizational meeting on August 1. The Committee met on August 29 in Washington, D. C., and organized and outlined its work. Its Administrative Committee has had several meetings. The Minutes for all these meetings will be found on pages 19-22.

We are grateful to the Council of Bishops and all the Agencies of the Church for the wholehearted support they are giving to this World Mission on Evangelism.

We hope that this Board will give its usual support to making the Philadelphia Convocation June 26, 27, 28 one of the greatest meetings we have had in the interest of evangelism. On that day we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Wesley, but also we want the Philadelphia Convocation to start an evangelistic movement which will spread around the world.

Perhaps the greatest act of the 1952 General Conference was the launching of this World Mission on Evangelism.

Letters of Notification

The General Conference of 1952 created a plan for Letters of Notification to be sent by a local church to other local churches when members move from one community to another. The General Conference provided for these Letters of Notification to come to our Board when the pastor did not know to which pastor to send them. Our Department of Organization and Administration, J. H. Edge, Director, is looking after this important matter.

The annual meeting of the Conference and District Secretaries of Evangelism was held in Washington, D. C., November 28-December 5, 1952, in a Spiritual Life Mission for the Greater Washington area. This program was sponsored by the Department of Spiritual Life, G. Ernest Thomas, Director. You will find a detailed account of the Washington Mission on pages 52, 53. The Spiritual Life Missions are spreading across the Church, as you will note in the report of this Department.

Departments and Administrative Staff

The Board of Evangelism, at its organizational meeting August 1, 1952, established the following departments of work and elected the following to serve as Directors and Editors:

The Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods—Harry L. Williams, Director

The Department of Finance—D. E. Jackson, Treasurer

The Department of The Upper Room Devotional Literature—J. Manning Potts, Editor

The Department of the Local Church—C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., Director

The Department of Negro Work—J. W. Golden, Director

The Department of Community Evangelism—Eugene E. Golay, Director

The Department of Cooperative Youth Work—Howard Ellis, Director

The Department of Tidings Evangelistic Literature—George H. Jones, Editor

The Department of Organization and Administration—J. H. Edge, Director

The Upper Room Family Life Department—J. Manning Potts, Director

The Department of Spiritual Life—G. Ernest Thomas, Director

These men comprise what is known as our Administrative Staff. We meet regularly to plan and promote the work committed to our Board. We work as a team. All matters are discussed freely and frankly. Our decisions are unanimous. Policies are formed and recommendations are made to you. J. H. Edge serves as staff secretary.

This year each member of the Administrative Staff is reading to you his report. We want you to know these men who carry the burden of the work of our Board. It was decided that each man would give you the objectives and scope of the work of the Department for which he has responsibility. He will tell you also about the activities of his Department. We want you to have this information at the beginning of the quadrennium.

May I say that no General Board of the Church has a finer Administrative Staff? They give themselves unreservedly, not only to the work of their Departments, but to the whole program of evangelism and devotional life. For example, all Departments try to increase the ministry of THE UPPER ROOM, while at the same time THE UPPER ROOM is a great evangelistic movement. Our Tidings Department of Evangelistic Literature is promoting the ministry of evangelistic literature and at the same time creating an evangelistic movement. But it is very true that an evangelistic movement increases the distribution of evangelistic and devotional literature.

We have a general staff which is composed of the staffs of the several Departments. The general staff meets annually for discussion and suggestions and information. This is a time for editors, directors, and field men to create ideas and plans for our work.

We were able to increase the staff of several of our Departments during this fiscal year. If our work continues to grow, and that is our desire, then there will have to be more increases in personnel.

Radio and Television

The 1952 General Conference sharpened the duties of the Radio and Film Commission and gave it an appropriation from the World Service dollar. Also, the General Conference unified the radio and film acitvities of the Church in the Radio and Film Commission. The Board of Evangelism felt that it should continue the work of The Upper Room Radio Parish in cooperation and through the work of the Radio and Film Commission. Your Executive Committee has approved this plan. The Radio and Film Commission has employed a staff member to be known as Director of Radio and Television Evangelism. Our Executive Committee has confirmed his election. We pay an amount, not to exceed $1,000.00 per month, to cover the budget expense of this Department in evangelism.

What Is Next?

1. We believe that laymen are ready for a great evangelistic movement. They know how to make evangelism a success in the community. The Department of United Evangelistic

Ray Ragsdale uses the Turn Over Chart, "They Went Forth—Two by Two," one of the materials prepared by the *Tidings* Department for the United Evangelistic Missions Department.

Missions and Methods will bring to you a suggested plan for reaching one million persons for Christ during 1954 and 1955.

2. The United Evangelistic Missions have proved very successful on an Area and Conference level. We hope that during the next two years every District in Methodism will have an intensive United Evangelistic Mission.

3. We believe that the members of our congregations must become concerned about the unconverted and unchurched to the extent that they will invite them to our churches to hear the gospel preached. The Department of Community Evangelism will bring a suggested plan for doing this.

4. We believe that the communities of this nation are ready for mass evangelism. The Department of Community Evangelism will bring you recommendations concerning the best methods of Pulpit and Visitation Evangelism for Community Mass Meetings.

5. We congratulate the Woman's Division of Christian Service on its quadrennial program and its emphasis on reaching persons for Christ and the Church. We pledge them our full cooperation.

6. Our greatest need is to have our church members practicing daily disciplines by reading the Bible and by having periods of prayer. THE UPPER ROOM is trying to increase its ministry every day.

7. Our greatest evangelistic opportunity is to reach the young families of this nation. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company estimated that there were 3,850,000 babies born in this nation in 1952. It also reported that more than 3,500,000 babies had been born every year for the past six years. We have more new families than ever in our history. They must be reached for Christ or they will be lost.

8. Also, we need to be organizing new churches to meet the evangelistic needs of these new communities.

One of our responsibilities is to see that each Conference Board of Evangelism and each District Board of Evangelism becomes a dynamic group for evangelism. Our Department of Organization and Administration is working on this matter.

We wish to thank the Layman Trust for Evangelism, of Quincy, Illinois, for its support of the work of evangelism with its funds and prayers. The Trustees of this great fund are our loyal and true friends. It is a pleasure to visit them at Quincy because of their deep and abiding interest in our work.

We wish to thank the Council of Bishops for its great leadership in evangelism. The achievements in the field of evangelism are due to the consecrated activity of our Bishops. The Ohio Area United Evangelistic Mission received as many commitments during the Mission as the entire Area did during the Conference year 1952. This would not have happened without the work of the Bishop, the District Superintendents, the pastors, the laity, and the youth. Throughout the Church the Bishops are leading a great evangelistic movement.

An Evangelistic Church

First Church, Antioch, Syria, was a great church and had many evangelistic characteristics:

1. It was a preaching church. (Preaching the Lord Jesus. "And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.") Through preaching they reached the people.

2. It was a teaching church. ("And it came to pass, that a whole year they [Saul and Barnabas] assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.")

3. It was a missionary church. ("Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwell in Judaea: which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.")

4. It was an evangelistic church. ("As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, 'Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.' And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.")

How wonderful it will be when we can get every Methodist church to have the marks of an evangelistic church as did First Church, Antioch, Syria!

It was our privilege to teach a course in Evangelism in a Christian Workers' School in a certain large city. There were 124 who answered written questions in order to receive credit for the course. The class was made up of the leaders in the local churches. They were church school teachers, members of the official board, active members of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, and members of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism. Below is a summary of their replies to questions on devotional habits:

	Yes	*No*	*Sometimes*
Grace at meals	106	11	4
Read Bible daily	52	52	15
Family worship	22	87	12
Read THE UPPER ROOM	44	58	19

Periods of daily prayer: One—47
Two—26
Three—17
None—4
Several—24

Evangelistic Calls: None 91
One 12
Two 8
Three 3

Inviting unchurched and unconverted to church or church school None—66
One—66
Two—9

This summary proves to me that we must put forth an effort to get the leaders of our local churches practicing daily spiritual habits.

Today we face an unprecedented wave of secularism. Many writers state that we need an evangelism which will challenge the disciples of secularism. We have it. Jesus met the challenge of secularism of His day by living a life full of peace, which no secularist has. He told the rich ruler to get rid of his plenty and to come and follow Him. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Jesus has been talking about "what shall we eat?" or "what shall we drink?" or "wherewithal shall we be clothed?" The disciple of secularism is always seeking *his* kingdom, but Jesus says to seek the Kingdom of God. Many persons are worried about atheistic communism, but we should be worried about the devotees of secularism who omit God from their way of life.

And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, "Let us go again. . . ." These words come out of the mind and heart of a restless witness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Let us go again"—to stonings, sufferings, and imprisonments; but let us go. Paul would never be satisfied to stay in Antioch in Syria and debate whether a Gentile Christian had to be circumcised or not. Paul wanted to go and tell the Gentiles about the living Christ.

Paul knew that the new churches needed strengthening. He wanted to visit the brethren. He wanted to organize new churches. He wanted his living Christ to live in others. He wanted the man of Macedonia to become a new creature in Christ. Asia is closed to him, but Macedonia is open. Paul did not know this when he was in Antioch, but he said, "Let us go again." He wanted to go. The Christian religion has to go, or it dies.

Methodism needs to be dominated by the spirit of Paul—*Let us go again.* Let us go to the new towns. Let us go to the new homes. Let us go to the young people. Let us go to the children. Let us go to this new generation. Let us go with the faith of Paul. Let us go with the love of Paul. Let us go with the hope of Paul.

Paul could go to the woman of the street. He could go to the jailer. He could go to the philosophers. He could go to the rich. He could go to Philemon.

Let us go—Antioch can have its theological debates, but let the Board of Evangelism go to the masses. They are waiting for a message of Christian hope.

The Christian Hope

The World Council of Churches, for its Evanston meeting in 1954, has chosen for its theme, "The Christian Hope." *The Christian Century* of January 7 says the following: "The ground and the object of Christian hope is Jesus Christ, crucified and risen. But in the world around us what are men hoping for? And when we say, as we must of some of them, that they are without hope, what is it that they lack? In most men there is a dream of the Kingdom of God, or the haunting longing for an earthly paradise."

Men have their hopes and dreams. Atheistic Communism fails them. State Socialism disappoints them. Political parties with their hopes fail. Scientific Humanism fails them. Fascism is hopeless. Materialism becomes a dead end street. Secularism is an empty dream.

There is a hope that never fails. It is the Kingdom of God. Jesus gave His all to the Kingdom. It took Him all the way to Calvary. He challenges us with the *hope* of the Kingdom of God. It is the only hope for men.

Let us go—and establish the Kingdom of God for this generation. Youth is ready. The might of armies does not establish kingdoms. The history of our generation proves it. Yesterday's victors are today's victims.

What is eternal and evarlasting? The Kingdom of God. God will not be defeated by the *isms* of men. The Christian hope for this generation is the Kingdom of God. Let us go again.

It will take all of our faith and all of our love. Jesus gave His all. After His death and resurrection He had forty days, and what did He do?—"He shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the *Kingdom of God.*"

Here is the Christian Hope—the Kingdom of God.

Of course, the disciples wanted the Kingdom of Israel restored, just as we want the kingdom of the American way of life, or the kingdom of liberalism, or the kingdom of science, or the kingdom of self, or some other kingdom established. But the Christian hope is the Kingdom of God.

The risen Christ said, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Let us go again

To every village
To every city
To every crossroad
To the open country
To the masses
To the lonely

"I hear my people crying
In cot and mine and slum:
No field or mart is silent
No city street is dumb.
I see my people falling
In darkness and despair
Whom shall I send to shatter
The fetters which they bear?

From ease and plenty save us;
From pride of place absolve;
Purge us of low desire;
Lift us to high resolve;
Take us, and make us holy;
Teach us Thy will and way.
Speak, and, behold! we answer;
Command, and we obey!"
—John Haynes Holmes

Let us go again
The Kingdom of God
is
Our Christian Hope.

Respectfully submitted,
Your friend,
HARRY DENMAN,
Executive Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

The Upper Room--Department of Devotional Literature

J. MANNING POTTS, *Editor*

Since our last annual meeting we have concluded one quadrennium and have begun another. During that period THE UPPER ROOM had an increase in circulation of about 600,000. At the beginning of the quadrennium we had two English editions, the regular and the pocket, the English Braille, the Spanish, the Chinese, and the Portuguese.

During the quadrennium the Armenian, two editions in the Philippines, Ilocano and Tagalog, the Korean, Australian, Swedish, Norwegian, Greek, Japanese, Italian, Hindi, Indian (English), Persian Urdu, Telugu, and Arabic editions have been added.

During the last year the new editions added were the Arabic, Telugu, and Persian Urdu. The Arabic edition is being published in Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. P. C. Krikorian, the editor of the Armenian edition, has charge of the Arabic also. These editions are sponsored by the Armenian Evangelical Christian Endeavor Union of Syria and Lebanon. The Arabic will circulate among the Arabic peoples of that part of the world. The Telugu edition is being produced for the people in South India under the sponsorship of the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Hyderabad State Christian Council. This makes three editions we have in India. We have also begun an edition in Persian Urdu, the main language of Pakistan. This edition is being sponsored by the West Pakistan Christian Council. We believe that a real worth-while ministry will be fulfilled by each of these editions.

Foreign Language Editions Effective

Though the circulation of each of the foreign editions is small, the editors are reporting that the circulation is increasing. The people are most appreciative of what is being done for them. Miss Doris Hess, who has charge of the Ilocano and Tagalog editions in the Philippines, said recently, "And on behalf of our Committee on Literature and for The Methodist Church of the Philippines, may I express my deep appreciation for the kind help given to us both financially and in the spirit from The Upper Room in Nashville. We all are indeed grateful for the hand that stretches across the miles to help us grow in faith and fellowship in the Kingdom of Christ."

The Reverend G. A. Lardi says in reference to the Italian edition, "The most encouraging features, however, are the letters and messages which come here bearing testimony that many human souls are daily using this means of grace and receiving great help for their daily life."

The Reverend Charles A. Sauer of Pusan, Korea, has repeatedly borne testimony to the work of the Korean edition. We have recently had a report from him indicating that they are now getting the Korean edition to the Korean army and navy chaplains. We have helped to make this possible by adding to the subsidy for this purpose. The request for this kind of thing came from our own chaplains who have been in the war theater.

Last year we reported that we were trying to work out a French edition. We have had many difficulties in this connection, as has been true of our efforts to establish a German edition. At the moment we are working on a solution of the French problem. Our people in the Belgian Congo, North Africa, and Belgium have agreed that if we can get an edition printed in Canada, it will be acceptable all the way around. It is our hope that we can get the United Church in Canada to help with the sponsorship of this.

At the moment we have a request from the Drummond Tract Society in England to allow them to publish their own edition for Great Britain. We have this under consideration. For some years the Drummond Tract Society has been our representative; but it is next to impossible to get money back from England, and it might be better to publish an edition there.

The Church Federation of the Philippines is interested in the Cebuano edition, and we are making investigations at that point. The people in Malaya are asking for a Siamese edition, and we are trying to work that out. This would be sponsored by the Presbyterian U.S.A. and the Christian and the Missionary Alliance Churches.

We are distressed that the Chinese edition had to cease publication. However, in working with our mission board and other agencies, we are trying to resurrect it in Hong Kong. It may be possible to work it out there.

The other language editions have proved to be a boon to us in several ways. Not only have they allowed us to have a great missionary and evangelistic outreach, with world evangelism and world fellowship at the center, but these editions have given us great publicity values and an opportunity to enlarge the ministry of THE UPPER ROOM. We feel that this is a most important part of our current ministry.

Special Issues Most Helpful

During the past quadrennium ideas for the World Christian Fellowship and the Lay Witness numbers were born. It has come to pass that the mail pull from these two special numbers is much larger than any of our regular editions. The two ideas have seemed to capture the imagination of our readers. The world fellowship idea has served to direct the way in which THE UPPER ROOM should go.

Since we have so many other language editions, we find it necessary editorially to represent these other countries, if possible, in every issue of THE UPPER ROOM. This gives us a larger representation of writers abroad, with less from the United States. It makes it more difficult for the individual to have his meditation printed. However, our people react in a most favorable way to this and seem to prefer the larger geographical representation of writers. Our correspondence at this point is quite convincing. The world fellowship idea has also been the great factor in centering attention upon the representation of the various races and other nations of the world.

The Lay Witness Number has centered our attention upon a large representation of men, women, and youth other than preachers. It has caused us to study the representation of

various groups and classes of people, other denominations, and persons in different walks of life.

Altogether the interdenominational, international, and interracial features of THE UPPER ROOM have produced an ecumenicity at the grass roots which has been rather remarkable. It is our opinion that one of the greatest demonstrations of Christian brotherhood today is going on in the pages of THE UPPER ROOM. It is a place where people can meet with one common Christian mind without clannishness, prejudice, or segregation.

Circulation Increased

Harold L. Hermann, our director of public relations, reports that the circulation of THE UPPER ROOM for the last twelve months has been 14,716,618. This means an average of 2,452,785 paid circulation per issue. This is an increase of 983,259 copies over last year, or an average increase of 163,000 per issue. It is interesting to note that every issue but one set a new record in paid circulation.

Mr. Hermann calls attention to the fact that the Spanish edition has had a good growth. Its circulation is 33,123. During the year, with the assistance of Dr. S. A. Neblett, former missionary to Cuba, a number of promotional pieces have been printed in Spanish. It is felt that the Spanish promotional pieces have been largely responsible for the increase in circulation.

At the present moment we are making intensive efforts to analyze the use of THE UPPER ROOM in the various states of the Union. We take one state at the time and analyze the use of THE UPPER ROOM in that state. We write to the churches which are not recorded as receiving copies of THE UPPER ROOM. In many instances we find that they get THE UPPER ROOM under the name of some person whom we could not identify with the church. However, we find that by this method of setting apart those who do not receive THE UPPER ROOM we can give intensive cultivation to these preachers and these churches. We feel that this is paying dividends. Several states have already been analyzed, and a follow-up of this analysis has been made with success.

We are doing something of the same kind of thing in reference to Canada, and it is our plan to do something of the same type of thing with our related Methodist Churches, A. M. E., A. M. E. Zion, and the C. M. E. Church. We have in mind the same plan for several other denominations which are using THE UPPER ROOM extensively, such as the Evangelical United Brethren and the Church of the Brethren.

We are also making a definite attempt to turn what is called our miscellaneous business into regular business. Considerable progress has been shown in this field of operations. It is our feeling that an intensive cultivation of our prospective fields is the most productive of results.

One of the goals of THE UPPER ROOM circulation was reached this last autumn. For some time we have been hoping for the day when our standing orders would pass the 2 million mark. This means that more than 2 million copies of each issue are shipped out every two months and billed automatically. The order, of course, can be increased, decreased, or cancelled at any time, and the purchaser may, if he chooses, return them for credit.

There are also more than 200,000 individual yearly subscriptions. Approximately 2¼ million of our circulation is quite stable from the business point of view.

Advertising and Promotion

Currently our periodical advertising is running consistently in 66 religious and denominational publications.

We make a mailing before each issue to aid in the distribution in the local church—called in the advertising field—point of purchase advertising.

In addition, we offer posters, leaflets, mats, stencil insets, and displays to the local church.

In the field of general promotion we try to reach the public through the news releases done on a national scale, a service of weekly meditations for weekly newspapers, and daily Bible verse and prayer for daily papers and through radio.

The related literature is advertised in some periodical advertising, in the bimonthly mailings, in special advertising leaflets in catalogs, and in flyers gotten out for special seasons like Christmas, Easter, and Family Week.

The Upper Room Pulpit

We are still publishing THE UPPER ROOM PULPIT. The circulation is not large. We feel that it has been hurt some by the discussion which has been going on in the Church in reference to the consolidation of magazines. However, it is our feeling that it has a definite place in our Upper Room structure. It gives us contact with a large number of outstanding preachers, who thereby give us support for THE UPPER ROOM as well as THE UPPER ROOM PULPIT. It establishes a definite tie with a good many seminaries.

During the past year we have had sermons from many of the outstanding leaders of America and elsewhere. Some of these are Harrison Ray Anderson, pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, Illinois, and past moderator of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.; Guy O. Carpenter, minister of First Methodist Church, West Lafayette, Indiana; Randolph Carleton Chalmers, professor of Systematic Theology, St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; Kenneth W. Copeland, pastor of Travis Park Methodist Church, San Antonio, Texas; Clarence W. Cranford, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.; Richard D. Dauntón-Fear, rector and rural dean of the Church of England, Gravesend, Kent, England; Frank E. Davison, pastor of First Christian Church, South Bend, Indiana; Thomas Taylor Faichney, minister of First United Church, Galt, Ontario, and past president of the Hamilton Conference of the United Church of Canada; Kenneth J. Foreman, Sr., professor of Doctrinal Theology, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky; Lloyd E. Foster, pastor of Old First Church (Presbyterian), Newark, New Jersey; James Gordon Gilkey, minister of South Congregational Church, Springfield, Massachusetts; V. Carney Hargroves, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Germantown, Pennsylvania; John Hellon, pastor of Parrs Wood Road Congregational Church, Didsbury, Manchester, England; Ernest Marshall Howse, pastor of Bloor Street United Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; James Philip Hyatt, professor of Old Testament, Vanderbilt University School of Religion, Nashville, Tennessee; Rex Kissack, pastor of Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, Oxford, England; George I. Laurenson, president of the New Zealand Methodist Conference and General Superintendent of the Home Mission Department, Auckland, C. I., New Zealand; Ernest E. Logan, minister of Gilford Presbyterian Church, Partadown, Northern Ireland; F. Scott MacKenzie, professor of Systematic Theology, Presbyterian College, Montreal,

Canada, and past moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; W. Gordon Maclean, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; Robert J. McCracken, pastor of Riverside Church, New York City; Gerald O. McCulloh, professor of Systematic Theology, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Illinois; Norman A. McMurray, minister of Wesley United Church, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Frederick M. Meek, pastor of Old South Church (Congregational), Boston, Massachusetts; Boynton Berrill, pastor of First Congregational Church, Columbus, Ohio; J. R. Mutchmor, Secretary of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service, The United Church of Canada, Toronto, Canada; Clarence MacKinnon Nicholson, Moderator of The United Church of Canada and principal of Pine Hill Divinity Hall, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada; Harold W. Ruopp, past minister of worship, Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Wilbour Eddy Saunders, president of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, New York; John Short, pastor of St. George's United Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Ralph W. Sockman, minister of Christ Church, New York City; and W. Ralph Ward, Jr., pastor of Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Other Devotional Literature

We have enlarged this field during the last quadrennium and during the past year. Bishop Cushman's *A Pocket Prayer Book, The Pocket Book of Faith,* and *A Pocket Book of Power* have a total sales far exceeding the other items. The sale of the Cushman booklets to date is 1,384,791.

The little book of children's prayers by Miss Lucy Gray Kendall has had a circulation of about 70,000.

During the past year we have published several additional books. Among them is *Your Problem Is You,* written by Roy L. Smith. It is having a good sale.

J. Manning Potts, editor of *The Upper Room*, presents the one millionth copy of *A Pocket Prayer Book* to Bishop Ralph S. Cushman.

Another new piece which has been published this year is the booklet, *Making God Real,* by Dr. David A. McLennan. It has had a splendid reception, and it is our expectation that its use will grow.

The Family Life Conference, which was held in Chicago a year ago, recommended that a booklet of some kind be gotten out for families with small children. As a result of this, and in cooperation with members of that committee and the Board of Education, we have published a little booklet called *Prayer Time.* Over 200 persons cooperated in the preparation of this booklet, and the compiling of it was done by Dr. Edward D. Staples, director of Parent Education and Family Religion, Board of Education. We feel that this little book will meet the needs of a large number who desire something in this field.

During the past year we have also published additional items in the devotional classic series. These are the *Living Selections from the Letters of John Wesley, Selections from the Journal of Francis Asbury, Selections from the Writings of Soren Kierkegaard, A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life* by William Law, *Selections from the Writings of St. Francis of Assisi.*

Our little book of Christmas carols has had a circulation of more than 200,000. The little booklet, *When Sorrow Comes,* in the Comfort Series, by E. Stanley Jones has had a circulation of over one-half million. Other items are having a good sale. At the moment we have in mind other things which will be published in the next year.

The Upper Room Radio and Television Parish

We are still doing business in the field of radio and are contemplating some television. During most of the year Howard W. Ellis has been in charge of our Upper Room Radio Parish, and he will make some report on this. Since fall, when he took over the Youth Evangelism Department, he has been finishing up some of the projects that we had in the hopper at that time. We are deeply indebted to him for what he has done. He has had some splendid projects and has had the vision to see ahead for the program. The distribution of The Upper Room Radio Parish materials has been put in the hands of Harold L. Hermann.

During the year we have projected several transcription series. We have had a regular program which has been a cooperative thing with the Protestant Radio Center in Atlanta. Programs have been provided which have been on as many as 400 or more stations. We have had a Christmas series, a Holy Week series, the Family Week series, each of which was on around 800 stations. And in addition, we have had a special 30-minute program for Thanksgiving and a 30-minute program for Christmas which were used by about 800 stations each. We are contemplating other programs.

At the moment, cooperating with the Radio and Film Commission, we are trying to arrange a television program with Dr. Charles Ray Goff as the feature. This would be televised from his "chapel in the sky" under The Upper Room imprint. This has had the approval of the Radio and Film Commission and the Broadcasting and Film Department of the National Council of Churches. It is hoped that we can work it out.

The Upper Room Filmstrips

Two filmstrips were produced by this department for THE UPPER ROOM. "The Romance of The Upper Room" is the story of the growth and ministry of THE UPPER ROOM from its beginning through its world-wide work which stretches around the globe.

"The Church in Thy House" is the dramatic story of a church and a family which develops the spiritual life of its members through the regular daily discipline of prayer. Both filmstrips are professionally written, photographed, and narrated. Each takes ten minutes with sound.

The Family

In the last meeting of our Board, authorization was given for the setting up of the Family Department as part of The Upper Room. At the moment we had in mind getting an outstanding person to head up this feature and thought we could work out the details. However, due to illness of the person we had in mind, the plan fell through, and we are still looking for an outstanding woman to take charge of this.

We put great emphasis on the family idea. THE UPPER ROOM is largely beamed toward the family. We have family programs on our Upper Room Radio Parish for Family Week. We get out devotional literature for the family in addition to THE UPPER ROOM. We keep regular family emphases going with our work day in and day out. We feel that the ministry of THE UPPER ROOM to the family may be greatly enlarged and that the circulation of THE UPPER ROOM can thereby be increased.

The Fellowship of The Upper Room

The Fellowship of The Upper Room is in charge of Miss Mattie Lee Chatham, who has been with The Upper Room for years. Under the Fellowship we have the Fellowship ministry, which is a ministry largely to unconverted people. Included within this Fellowship, however, is that to the men and women of the armed forces, the ministry of the Other Language Editions, the ministry to the blind, and other special ministries.

The appeals that are made through THE UPPER ROOM for the Fellowship and the various funds channel through this department. Because of the appeals we are able to carry on most of our chaplains' services. We are most anxious for the board to realize the importance of these ministries that we are carrying on. They are the extension ministry of the work of THE UPPER ROOM. All of them are subsidized. But it is our feeling that the services are most worth while and the ministry extends to many parts of the world. It is in this department that we head up our attempt to keep in touch with the hundreds of people who write to us asking for prayer. These letters are always answered, either by Miss Chatham or the editor of THE UPPER ROOM. It is a continuing and important ministry.

Vital Connection with Evangelism

When we met last year we were greatly disturbed because of the Survey recommendation that THE UPPER ROOM be separated from the Board of Evangelism. We came through the General Conference without that calamity. We wish to register our belief that this tie-up is a most essential one. The devotional idea and the evangelistic idea go together. They are connected with each other. To promote the devotional life requires a constant evangelistic emphasis. We are deeply indebted to the staff members of the Board of Evangelism for their continued promotion of THE UPPER ROOM. We feel that our ongoing is dependent upon that promotion, both in the literature and in the field. It is a privilege for us to be tied into that.

During the year the editor has had opportunity to participate in a number of United Evangelistic Missions where THE UPPER ROOM is stressed. It was a privilege to be in Alaska, where I represented the board in cooperation with our Board of Missions. We found THE UPPER ROOM in our churches there and were privileged to help spread its influence in that great territory to the northwest. It is our feeling that The Methodist Church has a great opportunity in that new land. It is our hope that Methodism will have the imagination to capture that opportunity.

It was also my privilege to participate in several Spiritual Life Missions, the outstanding one of which was the Washington Spiritual Life Mission. In all these Spiritual Life Missions the daily reading of THE UPPER ROOM is emphasized. We are deeply indebted to G. Ernest Thomas for this leadership.

During the summer we spent our vacation in Canada, mainly in Nova Scotia. We were privileged to meet people in every part of that lovely country who use THE UPPER ROOM. We worshiped in the churches, spoke in some, talked over the radio, and had many opportunities to have fellowship with the ministers in that part of the continent. We were interested to find that the largest orders for THE UPPER ROOM in Nova Scotia come from the Baptist churches of that great province.

From there we went to the Conference on Evangelism at Whitby, Canada. There we participated on the program and had many opportunities to have fellowship with the Board of Evangelism and Social Service and Dr. J. R. Mutchmor, the executive secretary. This board officially sponsors THE UPPER ROOM in the United Church in Canada. It was a privilege to cement those friendships we have with the Canadian churches.

As we come to the end of another year and the beginning of a new one, we are again conscious of our deep debt of gratitude to the staff with which we have the privilege of working, not only with Dr. Harry Denman and the members of the general administrative staff, but all the others with whom we have daily contacts. Especially in our own Upper Room department are we indebted to those who work on THE UPPER ROOM daily, who with great devotion and consecration help in doing the work that is before us. We work together as one team; and, though we realize our insufficiencies and need of daily grace, it is our prayer that God will fill us daily that we may be used as instruments in his hands to lead others in daily devotions.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Local Church Evangelism

C. LLOYD DAUGHERTY, JR., *Director*

I — Now We Have Handles!

When the Department of the Local Church was established a year or so ago, we all knew that our objective was "to help make the local church evangelistic." We also knew that we had an abundance of excellent evangelistic and devotional materials and literature and that our plans had been worked and found successful. What we did not know was how to gain direct, positive, and effective grasp on forty-thousand local churches.

We have had and have used many good indirect approaches, but their effectiveness has been limited largely to those churches where evangelism is already a realistic part of their program or where pastors with imagination and zeal for evangelism are on the alert for new and helpful ideas. It always has been gratifying to assist such churches and pastors in their evangelistic efforts. It is a worthy and rewarding ministry.

But while we have been concerned with helping evangelistic churches and pastors to develop in depth and effectiveness, there was an inner conviction that we were not doing our job as it should be done because there were many churches that we were not reaching. We coveted the opportunity to win those church leaders and churches who, because of inexperience or unfortunate circumstances, were frankly not interested in evangelism.

When the General Conference in San Francisco bluntly stated that "Four phases of activity are essential to the spiritual life and ministry of every local church: evangelism, education, missions, and finance" and followed that statement with a new "commission plan" of organization which requires every church to have an evangelistic program, an opportunity opened for evangelism such as has never been before in Methodist history. For the first time in Methodism, we are going to have in the Commission on Membership and Evangelism the "handles" that we have so desperately needed to enable us to take hold of our forty thousand churches!

We wish that we could have had this new direct grasp on the local churches available to us last year. Even so, we trust that we have made good use of the opportunities which we did have.

II — Last Year's Work

The year began with addresses at a Spiritual Life Mission in the Illinois Conference under the leadership of G. Ernest Thomas. This was followed by two Armed Forces Preaching Missions, sponsored jointly by the General Commission on Chaplains and the Joint Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches and directed by Dr. Jesse M. Bader. There was preaching and teaching at two Camp Meetings (Mennonites in Michigan and Methodists in Tennessee) and two Revivals (Virginia and Nebraska).

I worked with the Department of United Evangelistic Missions in directing three District U.E.M.'s (Florence, Alabama; Lexington, Tennessee; Roanoke, Virginia), and in giving Pulpit Evangelism addresses in two other U.E.M.'s (Michigan Conference and Ohio Conference) and U.E.M. preparation meetings for four Districts and Conferences.

On invitation, I helped the Wisconsin and Tennessee Conferences plan their quadrennial evangelistic programs, gave instruction at two Pastors' Schools under the direction of J. Richard Spann of the Commission on Ministerial Training, addressed four Annual Conferences on Evangelism, and attended the General Conference, the Northeastern and South Central Jurisdictional Conferences, and my own (Pittsburgh) Annual Conference.

I participated in the annual meetings of the General Board of Evangelism, the annual meetings of the Conference Secretaries of Evangelism, staff meetings and joint staff meetings with the General Boards of Education, Lay Activities, and Missions, and a very significant series of meetings in Chicago with the Bishops, District Superintendents, and Conference and District leaders of the North Central Jurisdiction.

Last year I started a series of District meetings, arranged by the District Superintendents and the Conference and District Secretaries of Evangelism for pastors, official board members and other key local church lay personnel, for the purpose of explaining the new organization for the local church and the place of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism in that program and organization.

Miscellaneous preaching, speaking to many kinds of church and secular meetings, plus the major responsibility of correspondence with the church in general in preparing for and following up field activities, made the year full as well as varied in its combination of the direct and indirect approaches to evangelism.

III — Present Activities

Since the General Conference has given us an open door into the local church, we have made direct mail contact with the 15,000 Chairmen of the Committees or Commissions on Membership and Evangelism whose names and addresses we had. In that letter we urged the local churches to subscribe to *Shepherds* magazine (which is beamed to the Commission on Membership and Evangelism) for every member of the Commission so that they would come to their Commission meetings informed about evangelistic plans and materials and inspired by the success stories of other churches. We pointed out that if their Commission did effectively the twofold work of evangelism, which results in more Christians and better Christians, then every other program and Commission and activity in the entire church automatically benefits by the loyal stewardship of these "more and better" church members. We likewise pointed out that the failure of this Commission to produce more and develop better Christians would mean that their church must automatically operate within the numerical and spiritual limitations of the *status quo*. We also enclosed a pamphlet which set forth the method for organizing the Commission, its personnel, and the sixteen points of the program outlined in the *Discipline* (75,000 of

these pamphlets have been distributed throughout the church by mailing and in meetings).

Each issue of *Shepherds,* our indispensable contact with the local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism, has carried articles directly related to plans, programs, procedures, and materials for use in the local church by the Commission.

Our field engagements through January of 1953 have included "workshop" meetings (some on a sub-district level) which have reached the pastors and the key laymen and leaders of eighteen Districts. These "workshops" have been direct approaches to the local church on the place and significance of evangelism in the church's life, how to get the program "airborne," and how to keep the program varied, vital, and victorious. Because of the sheer practicality of these workshop and discussion meetings on the District level, at the present time, we are giving them priority in our field engagements.

As this is being written, there is in the process of editing and arranging for publication a manual on the Local Church produced jointly by the General Boards of Evangelism, Education, Missions, and Lay Activities, presenting the organization and program of the four Commissions in the local church. We also have in the final stages of composition a more detailed and complete manual for the Commission on Membership and Evangelism. Preliminary plans are made for the production of a filmstrip on the same theme.

IV — Suggestions for the Commission

In our approach to the local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism, we are making several suggestions.

First, we urge that each official board subscribe to *Shepherds* magazine for each member of its Commission. An informed Commission is more likely to be an effective Commission.

Second, we recommend that each Commission be organized according to the *Discipline* and that six Committees (even though some of them might be small) be established to cover the six basic functions of the Commission as outlined in the *Discipline.* These recommended Committees are:

1. Committee on Prospects: To find those who should be won to, or reactivated in, the Christian Life.
2. Committee on Visitation Evangelism: To win those located by the Committee on Prospects.
3. Committee on Church Attendance: To promote church loyalty and attendance at the services of worship.
4. Committee on Spiritual Life: To reclaim the negligent; to assimilate the newly won; to deepen the Christian experience and commitment of all.
5. Committee on Private and Family Devotions: To develop devotional habits in the life of members—among other ways, by use of the Bible and THE UPPER ROOM, and the devotional plans available from THE UPPER ROOM.
6. Committee on Membership Rolls: To assist the pastor in keeping complete and accurate records of membership, and in sending of Letters of Notification where necessary.

Third, we suggest that the Commission understand for itself (and promote by example throughout the local church) that the work of evangelism is not the work of the pastor alone, but of *every* person who is sincere in desiring to live the Christian life. For we are Christian only as we (1) bear our witness to what Christ means to us, (2) win others to salvation in Him, and (3) deepen the experience in the lives of those who have started on the Way. Moreover, it is only by losing ourselves for others that we find rich and wonderful victories. These things we believe are true. They strike a responsive chord in those with whom we work, and, by answering a deep-felt need, verify the fact that we are not far from the right way.

V — Our Opportunity

It is my personal feeling and belief that there is no work in our denomination which is in a position to do so much for the Church, its people, or its Lord, as is this Department. Its opportunities are limited only by our limitations. I earnestly solicit your counsel, your prayers, and your efforts to give me a chance to be of service to you in your Jurisdiction, Area, Conference, District, or church. I cannot possibly give all of the time and devotion to this work that I would like to give, but I will count it a privilege if I may give it all that I have. Please help open up the way for me.

Wayne A. Lamb, pastor Union Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, meets with his Local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Community Evangelism

EUGENE E. GOLAY, *Director*

In the fall of 1950 it was my high privilege to be invited to become a member of the staff of the General Board of Evangelism as Associate Director of the Department of United Evangelistic Missions. I have never regretted my decision to accept this challenging opportunity. Since that time I have had a series of thrilling experiences which have deepened my faith in God, enriched my knowledge of the Church, enlarged my vision of the conquest of Christ's Kingdom, and warmed my heart with a passion for the salvation of men. I pray daily for spiritual power adequate for the demands of this tremendous task.

After two years in the Department of United Evangelistic Missions, it was an honor for me to be made Director of this new Department of Community Evangelism. It is with a deep sense of inadequacy that I undertake its responsibilities. I want to express my sincere appreciation to Harry L. Williams, who was my chief for two years, for his wise counsel and constant encouragement.

Miss Emily McConnell, my secretary in this new department, has already proven her interest in the cause of evangelism and her ability to handle the many details related to our work.

When I was given the responsibility of this new department in September, it was understood that I should complete my assignment as director of the Louisville Area U.E.M., and now I am directing the Richmond Area U.E.M. Therefore, there is very little to tell concerning the work of the department. In this, my first report to the General Board of Evangelism, I shall deal with three things—my activities of the past year, the functions of the new department, and its objectives for the quadrennium.

An example of an outdoor display sign.

I — The Year in Review

In checking through my engagement book for 1952, I discover that I have spent 254 days in the field, traveled over 40,000 miles, worked in 17 states, and delivered 302 sermons and addresses. In addition, there have been many committee meetings and conferences. This is the record of one twentieth-century Methodist Circuit Rider.

1. *United Evangelistic Missions.* As Associate Director of the Department of U.E.M., it was my privilege to direct three Missions during the year and help in two others.
   - —*Chattanooga District*—February 15-24. In this Mission I had the joy of serving as the Director.
   - —*Washington, D. C.*—February 29-March 9. I shall be eternally grateful for the experience of directing the Washington, D. C., U.E.M.
   - —*Jacksonville Area*—February 13-15. Under the able direction of Leroy Walker, it was my responsibility to give the instructions in Visitation Evangelism to the nearly 1,000 host and guest pastors of the Jacksonville Area U.E.M. This was a unique experience in training a large group.
   - —*Portland Area*—The week of March 22-28 was spent in the Portland Area at Payette, Idaho, where I served as instructor in "Developing Disciples" and inspirational speaker for one of the District Periods of Power.
   - —*Louisville Area*—The major part of my time in July and September through November was spent in directing the Louisville Area U.E.M. From the coal fields of Eastern Kentucky to the cotton fields of the Mississippi Valley in Western Tennessee is a long distance and embraces a vast area. Herein are Methodist churches of all types and sizes. This Mission was the first phase of the Southeastern Jurisdictional U.E.M. and served as the "Pilot Mission."
2. *Youth Work Camps In Evangelism.* Evangelistic work among youth and by youth has always been one of my major interests. Under the inspired direction of G. Ernest Thomas, I enjoyed the opportunity of assisting in the leadership of the Director's Conference of work camps in Cincinnati and of serving in three work camps.
   - —*Colorado Springs*—July 13-20. Major emphasis of this work camp was on a religious census of a new section of the city. During the week 18 youth contacted 2,752 persons and discovered 249 new prospects for membership in The Methodist Church. Visitation evangelism was conducted two nights and the teams secured three persons on profession of faith and five transfers of membership. I served as instructor in "Methods of Evangelism."

—*Birmingham, Alabama*—August 3-9. My assignment in the daily program was to present "The Motives of Evangelism." The primary feature of the work camp was the evening preaching services. A total of 110 youth assisted 16 churches in making surveys, visiting inactive members, calling on new young people, and doing visitation evangelism. In the closing commitment service, 33 youth dedicated their lives to full time church work.

—*Memphis, Tennessee*—August 24-29. Thirty-two youth attended this outstanding work camp. I served as instructor in "Methods." Surveys and visitation evangelism were conducted for two new churches in new sections of the city. Teams of youth contacted 5,289 persons and discovered 868 Methodist prospects. They also secured 11 commitments on profession of faith and 26 transfers of membership for the two churches.

3. *Community Evangelistic Crusade.* The first of a new type Evangelistic Crusade, which will be the responsibility of this department, was conducted in the small community of Lonaconing, Maryland, April 27-May 9. Although the plan was altered greatly to fit my schedule and local community needs, the results of the Mission were indicative of the need and opportunity for such crusades across America.

Five churches cooperated in this interdenominational crusade—two Methodist, and one Presbyterian, Pentecostal Holiness, and Assembly of God. Prayer groups were organized, a "Give God A Chance" program was sponsored, inactive members were visited, membership prospects were secured, and visitors enlisted before the crusade opened. An excellent program of publicity was carried out. The Fireman's Hall was secured for the Mass Evangelistic Services. A Methodist pastor, Joseph Young, did a magnificent job as general chairman. I served as the preacher and conducted the training sessions in visitation evangelism for the workers from all of the churches.

The response of the community and the results were beyond our expectations. The visitors secured many commitments on profession of faith and for transfer of membership. (We have been unable to get an accurate record of commitments.) Average attendance at the preaching services was 435. Nearly 400 persons made various types of spiritual life decisions, and 125 parents rededicated their homes to Christ. Others made decisions to pray daily, to tithe, to read the Bible, to attend church regularly, and to visit in the name of the Church. There was an average of 140 children in attendance at the special Children's Services. The entire community was stirred.

The pastor of the Presbyterian Church said, "The emphasis was where it belonged." The pastor of the Assembly of God Church declared, "Our city was stirred. Our churches received rich benefits from the revival." The pastor of the Lonaconing Methodist Church said, "I am told by some of the older residents that never in their memory has there been such a fine feeling of Christian friendliness as now exists. Church attendance has increased in all churches. I have received many into membership and have another group to receive after the session of the Annual Conference." The pastor of the Pentecostal Holiness Church wrote, "The experience did not end with the last evening of the meeting. It lingers on in our community, in our local churches, and in our hearts! Through our community effort we have seen that various churches may work together for good."

4. *National Layman's Retreat*—September 26-28. It was a rewarding experience to be associated with G. Ernest Thomas and Robert G. Mayfield in this new field of evangelistic endeavor. It is my conviction that here is a technique which we should develop for the cause of Christ.

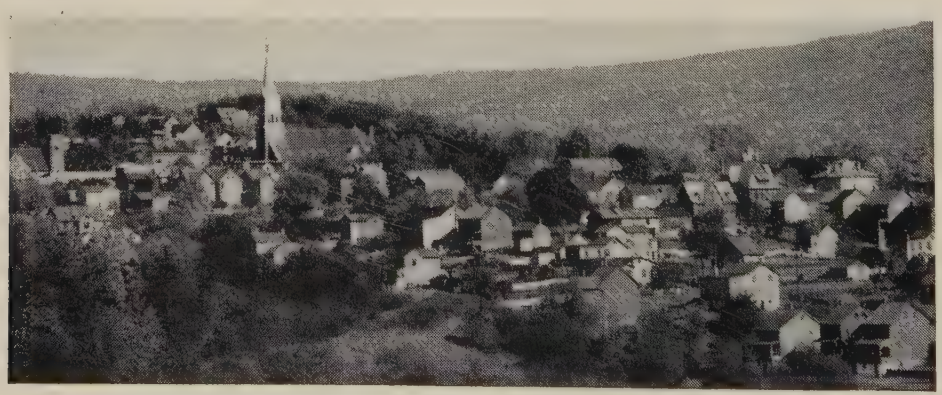
5. *Other Activities*—During the year I addressed the Nebraska, Memphis, North Mississippi, Kentucky, and Louisville Annual Conferences and the Chicago Methodist Preacher's meeting. Holy Week, April 6-13, was spent in a Visitation and Preaching Mission in Baton Rouge, La. I participated in the Washington, D. C., Spiritual Life Mission, Nov. 28-Dec. 7, preaching in Ebenezer Church of the Central Jurisdiction.

The training booklet for Pulpit Evangelism, "Preach the Word," was prepared during the year. We are now working on a large chart, in addition to the booklet, for the use of instructors in Pulpit Evangelism.

II — Functions of the Department of Community Evangelism

Two major responsibilities have been assigned to this department by the General Board of Evangelism—Community Evangelism and Church Attendance.

In Community Evangelism the major emphasis is to be upon the Mass Evangelism technique. This department is to



Lonaconing, Maryland, where the first community evangelism program was held.

discover and develop effective methods for mass evangelism today, to meet the needs of a growing demand for leadership in this field at the community level, to organize and direct Community Crusades in Mass Evangelism, to provide programs for a united Protestant approach in the community.

In the area of church attendance the department is to promote church loyalty and church attendance, to develop techniques, programs, and materials for Church Loyalty and Church Attendance Crusades, to train leadership for and to field-test Church Attendance Crusades, to lead a movement toward bringing back reverence for the Lord's Day, to promote plans for making the Sunday night service an evangelistic opportunity.

1. *Community Evangelistic Crusade*—This is a new day for evangelism. One of the reasons for this revival of interest is that we have developed new strategies and techniques of evangelism that reach effectively the mind and heart of our day. Visitation evangelism, educational evangelism, and counseling evangelism are proved methods for winning great numbers of persons to Christ and His Church.

This is a new day for *mass* evangelism. The thrilling results of the United Evangelistic Missions, which utilize preaching as one of the methods, and the remarkable response across America to the Billy Graham and Charles Templeton crusades reveal a new interest in the voice of the preacher. There is a great spiritual movement on in our time. Men want to hear what God can do *for* them and *through* them.

However, modern mass evangelism is not the revivalism of the past generation. It is primarily an evangelism to the Church. Only a small number of those who attend our preaching services today are from outside the Churches. The evangelistic preaching of our time must be directed to lead church members to new decisions about Christian living, to arouse the indifferent, to build up believers in the faith, and to challenge every Christian to witness for Christ, as well as to win new commitments to Christ and membership in the Church.

The Community Evangelistic Crusade is conceived in the light of modern needs and attitudes. Though it employs all of the modern evangelistic techniques, *its distinguishing feature is the central mass evangelistic service* each night. It is a total program of evangelism with a united approach to the total community or city. It may be sponsored by a group of Methodist churches or it may be carried out as an interdenominational crusade. The period of preparation should be not less than six months, the period of operation not less than three weeks.

Preparations for the Crusade involve a prayer retreat for pastors and leaders, an organized, community-wide prayer movement, a religious census to discover prospects for church membership, and a church loyalty "Give God A Chance" emphasis.

The Crusade begins with a program of Lay Visitation Evangelism in all of the cooperating churches. The mass evangelistic preaching services are initiated on the second Sunday and continue two or three weeks. The plan suggests that a group of young preachers be brought in for training in the techniques of modern mass evangelism through seminars and participation in the services. Other features of the program include morning Bible study classes, men's breakfasts, children's services, youth clinics, counseling, services before clubs, in jails, on the streets, training classes for new converts, and a pastor's discussion group in "Developing Disciples." Radio and television facilities are to be enlisted in the Crusade.

A continuation program for the cooperating churches to conserve the results of the Crusade is an important feature—permanent prayer groups, Fishermen's Clubs, Developing New Disciples, and a plan for year-round evangelism.

Requests for Crusades have come to our office from several communities and cities already, though the program has not been officially launched. This indicates the growing interest in mass evangelism. We believe this new approach will prove effective and fruitful. The major problem confronting us as we launch this new type Crusade is that of effective leadership. One of our first goals is to discover and develop men in this field of evangelism.

2. *Church Attendance*—Surveys have shown that approximately 27% of the membership of the average church attend the worship services on an average Sunday. This should give us cause for deep concern. We can never develop a spiritually strong, evangelistic church with this kind of churchmanship. We should insist that our members give visible evidence of their Christian faith by consistent church attendance. The time is "Now" for developing a great movement across America that will lift up dramatically the value and the essentiality of church attendance for living the Christian life.

"See You In Church Sunday"—This effective program for promoting church attendance has had wide use throughout the nation by all denominations. We shall continue to publicize and recommend it. It is our plan to produce additional materials, such as TV film spots, large billboard posters, and bumper strips.

"Give God A Chance"—The "Give God A Chance" movement was launched at a most opportune time. The response of pastors and laymen indicates that they are ready for this new

program. We believe that in its two-fold emphasis—"Worship in His House Every Week" and "Read His Word Every Day" —there is the combination which can provide the challenge for a nation-wide movement.

We have secured a small city in which the program is being tested on a community-wide, interdenominational basis. Every feature of the Crusade will be carried out. We hope to learn many things through this experience.

It is our plan to promote City-wide, Interdenominational Crusades and District, Conference, and Area Crusades among our Methodist churches.

We are in process of preparing additional new "Give God A Chance" materials—a "How" booklet, instructions for visitors, TV spots, large billboard posters, bumper strips, and radio spot announcement platters.

Nation-wide Crusade—It is my hope that during the quadrennium we may promote a simultaneous nation-wide "Church Attendance Crusade" using the slogan, "Give God A Chance." I believe that the time is here for such a movement.

"Why I Go To Church" Contest—In preparation for the Church Attendance Crusade we propose, through *Shepherds* Magazine, to sponsor an essay contest on the theme, "Why I Go To Church." There would be prizes for the best compositions, selected by a committee of outstanding ministers and laymen. Such a contest would create a new interest in church attendance and provide a variety of materials and ideas for promotion. The best articles might be printed in tract form and in *Shepherds*.

New Slogan—One of the projects that demands attention is the creation of a new slogan and new materials for promoting church attendance. This might be included as a feature of the "Why I Go To Church" Contest.

III — Objectives for the Quadrennium

I should like to list in closing this report some broad objectives for the quadrennium:

1) Assist pastors and laymen in organizing intensive community evangelistic crusades and in utilizing all modern techniques, with special emphasis upon mass evangelism.
2) Create new materials in the field of mass evangelism.
3) Promote the Community Religious Census as the most effective means of finding persons for whom our churches are responsible.
4) Train preachers in the art of effective evangelistic preaching through participation in Community Mass Evangelism Crusades.
5) Encourage interdenominational cooperation in evangelism at the community level.
6) Develop among church members a new sense of the necessity of consistent church attendance for spiritual living.
7) Promote a nation-wide church attendance crusade.
8) Create a new slogan and materials for church attendance.
9) Exalt the sacredness of the "Lord's Day" for Christians and lift up the Sunday night service as an evangelistic opportunity.
10) Promote the reading of the Bible in every church home every day.

The challenge and opportunity of this day for aggressive evangelism should inspire us as we face the new quadrennium. This is a "great time to be alive." Never in history have we had such a time for bearing witness to our faith. Someone has put it pointedly in these words:

"We face a *humanity* too precious to neglect.

We know a *remedy* for the world's ills too wonderful to withhold.

We have a *Christ* too glorious to hide.

We have an *adventure* too thrilling to miss."

Your Church
urges you to
"Give God A Chance"
by
GIVE
GOD
A CHANCE
1. Worshipping Him in His House Every Week
2. Reading His Word in Your House Every Day
Our members are making this covenant with God and each other
"See You in Church Sunday"

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods

HARRY L. WILLIAMS, *Director*

LESLIE J. ROSS, *Assistant Director;* LEROY H. WALKER, JOSEPH T. EDWARDS, J. LESTER McGEE, *Field Directors;* L. GLENN JACOBS, SAMUEL W. ROBINSON, *Part-time Field Directors*

We firmly believe, under God, that the United Evangelistic Mission has become Methodism's fullest evangelistic impact upon the community and nation—a strategy that has captured the motive, the methods, and the message of evangelism. Its genius is its all-inclusiveness. Its strategy is not fractional, fragmentary, or piecemeal. It refuses to stress one pet mode of evangelism or subordinate another of dissimilar approach. Rather, it embraces and coordinates three equally important and usable techniques: Pulpit Evangelism, Visitation Evangelism, and Public Evangelism.

Beyond all question, the United Evangelistic Mission has been one of the greatest influences to help redeem evangelism in our time. It has transformed the ministry of hundreds of Methodist preachers and made rejoicing, soul-winning evangelists of multiplied thousands of Methodist laymen.

At last, Methodists are ringing more doorbells than church bells, winning as many people by proximity as by proxy, and doing as much in person as by purse. The warm heart of experience has become the glad heart of expression. Intake has gone on to outgo. Receiving has given way to sharing, and worshiping has found truth and spirit in witnessing.

CAPTURING THE CONCERN—The first motivation of evangelism is to *care*. There is a mounting evidence that our laymen and preachers are beginning to care. There is a new spiritual depth in our Missions today, a discernible *plus* factor over and above all our human effort. We rejoice and thank God for it.

REPEAT MISSIONS—We rejoice that the United Evangelistic Mission Movement is not identified with a person or attached to a Board. It is a dynamic spirit of evangelism finding expression in numerous "repeat" Missions going on in new fields by contagion and into other denominations by example. This spread of the movement is our best testimony. May it continue to grow and expand.

GOSPEL OUT OF CHURCH—Our Public Evangelism emphasis in the United Evangelistic Mission has done a great deal to take the gospel out of church via radio and television and by public and religious press. We like to think that this has also helped to influence other out-of-church religious movements. Every voice that is added, every visual attack that is made, every public impact that is felt, added to the church effort, is a help to make America conscious that this nation, under God, is the last great citadel of man's freedom.

Results of United Evangelistic Missions — 1952

No.	*Mission*	*Interviews*	*Profession and Vows*	*Methodist Transfers*	*Total Commitments*
27	San Francisco Area	20,199	2,769	2,781	5,500
28	Jackson Area	19,955	4,476	3,046	7,522
29	St. Louis Area	41,039	7,235	5,072	12,307
30	Oklahoma Area	....	8,038	4,369	12,407
31	Portland Area	34,679	5,478	3,868	9,346
32	Cuba Conference	....	....	....	1,436
33	Florida Conference	26,802	3,311	3,404	6,715
34	Alaska	1,100	246	157	403
35	Pacific Japanese Provisional Conference	4,860	....	....	151
36	Dublin District (Georgia)	1,429	314	192	506
37	Florence District (Ala.)	...	194	151	345
38	Chattanooga District	2,466	437	205	642
39	Williamsport District (Penn.)	1,833	375	246	621
40	Brooksville District (Penn.)	1,788	378	200	578
41	Norfolk-Portsmouth Newport News Districts	7,108	978	1,022	2,000
42	Lexington District (Ky.)	1,315	158	64	222
43	Montgomery District (Ala.)	1,322	237	253	490
44	Metropolitan Washington, D. C.	14,614	2,249	2,209	4,452
45	Mississippi (C) Upper Mississippi Conference (C)	....	819	342	1,161
46	Birmingham District	206	69	21	90
47	Detroit Area	53,791	10,803	5,207	16,010
48	Louisville Area	39,070	5,140	4,387	9,522
49	Ohio Area (I)	....	4,405	2,957	7,362
50	Illinois Conference (I and II)	14,578	2,522	1,999	4,521
51	Harrisburg District (Illinois)	....	317	307	624
52	Maine Conference	....	211	52	263
53	New Hampshire Conference	....	187	140	327
		288,154	61,346	42,651	105,423
	Summary of Missions 1 through 26	423,053	77,490	56,944	134,501
	GRAND TOTAL	711,207	138,836	99,595	239,924

NEW MATERIALS—Many new materials have been developed for the Missions. *Preach the Word,* by Eugene E. Golay and some fifty collaborators is a vital new curriculum for Pulpit Evangelism. Available in a fifty-cent booklet with space for notes, this teaching outline, with Leslie Ross's booklet, *Preach on These Things,* gives an enlightened content to our Pulpit Evangelism emphasis.

Planning for Our United Evangelistic Mission, a sound filmstrip, shows step by step the advance preparation needed in the local church.

They Went Forth—Two by Two, a facsimile reproduction of the chart in twenty-five cent booklet form, is a tool that the smallest church can use. It is also available in chart form for $12.00 and in filmstrip for $5.00.

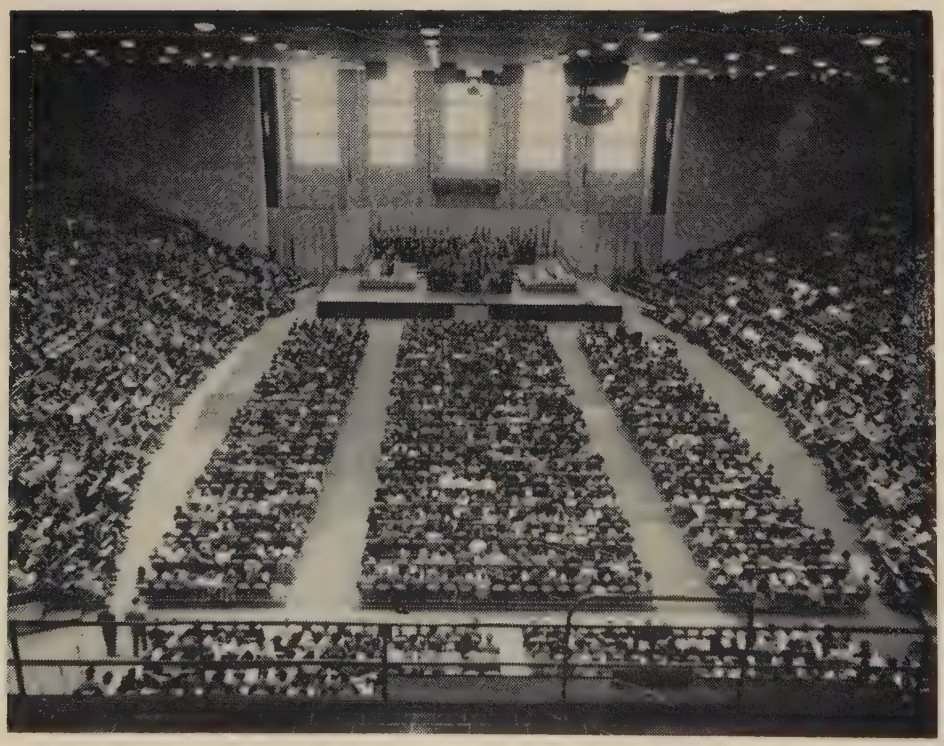
An *Assignment and Report Folder* takes the place of the former Assignment and Report Envelope and serves as a compact unit for evangelistic visitors.

New Promotional and Publicity Pieces—Hymnal bands, bulletin inserts, window stickers, car bumper stickers, prayer posters, billboard signs, "You Need Christ Now" stamps, and

At the right, Bishop Roy H. Short, Southeastern Jurisdiction Chairman, and Harry L. Williams, Director, meet with some district superintendents and U. E. M. leaders.

Below, thousands attend the Lexington (Kentucky) Mass Meeting held in connection with the Louisville U. E. M.

In the center of the pages are miniature reproductions of the cards on which Methodists pledge prayer and presence for the U. E. M.



PRAYER COVENANT

The United Evangelistic Mission

THE METHODIST CHURCH

I covenant with Christ and The Fellowship of Prayer in His Church to pray daily for **The United Evangelistic Mission.**

( ) I will pray for:
Our pastor, district superintendent, bishop.
The evangelistic leaders who are coming.
The members of our church.

( ) I will pray for:
Those who are without Christ—
That they may be won to Him and to His Church.

( ) I will keep a personal prayer list of those whom I would like to see won to Christ

( ) I will observe the **CALL TO PRAYER** at 6:00 P.M. daily.

Name _____

(Detach and hand to Pastor)

I covenant with Christ and the Fellowship of Prayer in His Church to pray daily for the United Evangelistic Mission.

Name _____

Address _____

lawn signs have been attractively designed to promote and publicize the Missions both inside and outside the church.

Our Staff—I take pride in our staff, each one of whom is wholly devoted to evangelism and the advancement of the Kingdom.

Leslie J. Ross, of the Southern California-Arizona Conference, is Assistant Director of the Department. In addition to this added responsibility, he has directed the St. Louis Area and Ohio Area Missions.

Leroy H. Walker, Field Director, is from the Pacific Northwest Conference. He has directed the Florida Conference United Evangelistic Mission and several district missions.

Joseph T. Edwards, Field Director, is from the New Jersey Conference. He has directed Missions in the Norfolk, Portsmouth-Newport News Districts and the Detroit Area.

L. Glenn Jacobs, from the North Indiana Conference, has been busy almost full time directing the Jackson Area, Birmingham District, and Illinois Conference Missions.

Two new members of our staff are J. Lester McGee, of the Kentucky Conference, and Samuel W. Robinson, of the

At the left, an Area Planning Conference perfecting plans for the Southeastern Jurisdiction Mission.

Below, Bishop W. Angie Smith addresses the Mass Meeting held in the City Auditorium, Houston, Texas, to climax the Houston Area Mission.

ATTENDANCE PLEDGE

The United Evangelistic Mission
THE METHODIST CHURCH

I BELIEVE:

That every person needs to know Christ as his personal Saviour.

That the Church, which is the body of the living Christ, needs every person.

I WILL WITNESS:

To this faith by attending

( ) The Evangelistic Services at my church.
( ) The District Youth Rally.
( ) The great District Mass Meeting.

I WILL INVITE:

My unchurched friends to attend these services.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

UNITED BELIEVING
UNITED PRAYING
UNITED WITNESSING
UNITED WORSHIPING

Northwest Indiana Conference. These men have been instructors in several Missions in 1952 and are currently directing the Atlanta and Jacksonville Areas in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. We rejoice in their coming to us.

Eugene E. Golay, of the Nebraska Conference, for the first seven months of 1952 was Associate Director of the department and directed the Chattanooga District, Lexington District, Montgomery District, Metropolitan Washington, D. C., and the Louisville Area Missions. We rejoice that he is now the Director of the Department of Community Evangelism. He has shown a magnificent spirit of cooperation in continuing to direct the United Evangelistic Mission in the Louisville Area and Richmond Area in the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

Harry L. Williams, United Evangelistic Mission and Methods Department Director, is from the Central New York Conference. In addition to the overall work of the department, your director has given field direction to the San Francisco Area, Portland Area, and Pacific Japanese Provisional Missions, promoted the Hour of Evangelism at General Conference, and is currently directing the department's Southeastern Jurisdiction United Evangelistic Mission and the Nashville Area Mission.

Our office secretaries are as interested in the work as we and carry their responsibilities with high devotion.

Miss Carolyn Sewell is secretary for Leroy H. Walker, J. Lester McGee, and Samuel W. Robinson.

Mrs. Verlin Hinshaw is secretary for Joseph T. Edwards, Leslie J. Ross, and L. Glenn Jacobs.

Mrs. William Lazenby is secretary for Harry L. Williams.

No Person Unknown—No Person Unsought—May God grant to the people called Methodists the vision and holy daring to see this goal: that in every city, town, hamlet, and rural community the Methodist society may never be satisfied, complacent, or indifferent. . . .

. . . that every person is known—by name and address and whether he is in loving fellowship with Jesus Christ and . . .

. . . that every person is sought.

It is the Seeker and not the sought who makes every person a prospect. We do not have to win every person for Christ, but we do have to try.

Appreciation—We give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His healing power, returning strength and continuing guidance through more than 50,000 miles of travel in fog, rain, sunshine, heat and cold, ice and snow, to find in appreciative hearts of pastors and laymen their willingness to be God's evangelists.

Cooperation—We want to pay tribute to our indefatigable friend and leader, Harry Denman, for his unfailing fountain of ideas, his unreachable goals, his impossible plans, and his perpetual discontent with our meager achievements.

We are grateful to all other members of the Administrative Staff for their inestimable help in the Missions.

We are, more than these few words can express, deeply indebted to all who have helped this Department to be self-sustaining.

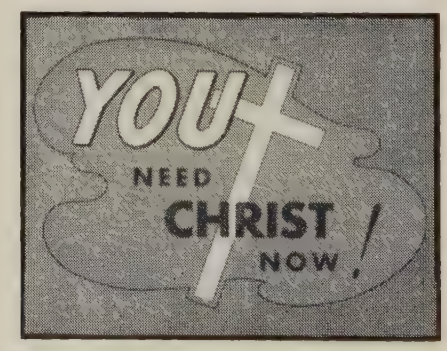
George H. Jones and his Tidings Department have given us the best possible evangelistic materials. Their patient and painstaking work has made possible our victories.

D. E. Jackson and his staff have taken care of the details of the finances of our Missions, corrected our errors, been patient and kind and always most cooperative in taking care of the myriad details involved in these vast enterprises.

To you, our Board Members, for this glorious opportunity of being "workers together," we give thanks from the depths of our hearts. It has been a high privilege and rich blessing to be associated with you in Christ's redeeming work.

United Evangelistic Missions Scheduled for 1953-54

1. Ohio Area (2a and 2b phases)	Feb. 6-13
	Feb. 20-27
2. Illinois Conference (3rd phase)	Jan. 2-9
3. Grove City District (Erie Conf.)	Feb. 8-13
4. Cuba	Feb. 10-19
5. New Albany District (Ind. Conf.)	Feb. 27-Mar. 8
6. Hagerstown District (Baltimore Conf.)	March 4-15
7. Southeastern Jurisdiction	
Atlanta Area	April 17-26
Birmingham Area	April 17-26
Richmond Area	April 17-26
Charlotte Area	May 1-10
Jackson Area	May 1-10
Jacksonville Area	May 1-10
Nashville Area	May 1-10
8. Rock River Conference (Illinois)	Oct. 9-18
9. New York Area	Oct. 16-25
	Nov. 6-15
10. Kansas Area	Fall
11. Nebraska Area	Fall
12. East St. Louis Districts (S. Ill. Conf.)	Fall
13. Olney District (S. Ill. Conf.)	Fall
14. Wisconsin Area	Oct.-Nov., 1954



Symbol used in connection with the United Evangelistic Missions.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Organization and Administration

JOSEPH H. EDGE, *Director*

We are glad to report for the Department of Organization and Administration to The General Board of Evangelism in this, its first Annual Meeting of the quadrennium, 1952-1956. While you already have some knowledge of what our part is in the work of our Board, we wish to lift up some items that might be of particular interest. The increasing responsibility of Organization and Administration in the ever-expanding work of the Board is self-evident, and we count it a great privilege to cooperate with each Department in every way we may be helpful.

Enlistment of Guest Pastors

The enlistment of guest pastor personnel for the various missions is no small matter, but is most important in its results. Not only do these guest pastors bring assistance of incalculable value to the missions in which they participate, but also they find in these missions an experience of great enrichment, vision, and inspiration. Many have written, after such an experience, saying that it has not only given new meaning to their own Christian experience, but has enabled them to give a new leadership in the work of their own churches.

For the Louisville Area U.E.M., which served as a training program for the great Southeastern Jurisdiction U.E.M., we secured guest pastors from the other Areas of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Many of these men were District Superintendents who, because of this participation, are able to give much more effective leadership in their own Districts as the Jurisdictional program is carried on.

The Spiritual Life Mission in Metropolitan Washington, November 28—December 5, 1952, was a new venture of the Spiritual Life Department and has helped to set a pattern for further efforts in that direction. We not only secured a full quota of desired guest pastors for the Spiritual Life Mission, but, in fact, men responded so generally that the number exceeded our expectations and made it possible to assign several men to some of the participating churches.

That the Spiritual Life Mission has great possibilities additional to the achievements in the participating churches in Metropolitan Washington is evidenced by expressions from many of the guest pastors. The United Missions, both Evangelistic and Spiritual Life, have proved a tremendous stimulus to the evangelistic interest and practice of both pastors and laymen. Many churches have a new evangelistic fervor and have really taken on new life.

Co-operation with Evangelistic Leaders

A service that continues to be of interest and helpfulness is the passing on of information and literature regarding evangelistic achievements on District, Conference, Area, and Jurisdictional levels, to the leaders of the Church—Bishops, District Superintendents, and Conference and District Secretaries of Evangelism. We find that what has been done with marked success, with adaptations to local situations, and with high motives and united effort on the part of pastor and people, can be duplicated in almost any church and community.

Our Department not only serves as a clearing house for an exchange of evangelistic ideas and procedures, but we are happy to be of assistance to District Superintendents and Conference and District Secretaries of Evangelism in the organization and administration of evangelistic programs in their respective fields.

Wills and Annuities

The increased allocation of funds from World Service for this quadrennium has meant much to our work. Yet, it is generally recognized that, in comparison to the outreach of our Board's work, the funds are altogether too meager.

Happily there are throughout the Church a number of "Friends of Evangelism" who continue to want to be partners in this great enterprise of winning persons to Christ and the Church, by making contributions to this work. We are deeply indebted to our friends, the trustees of the Layman's Trust for Evangelism, for their challenging appropriations to our work. We feel that the late Mr. E. V. Moorman would be greatly pleased to know that his foresight and devoted Christian Stewardship are really doing double duty by challenging other "Friends of Evangelism" to match the provisions he so generously made for the work of evangelism. Report of these special gifts to our work will be made by D. E. Jackson Business Manager and Treasurer.

In December we attended a Conference on Wills, Annuities, and Special Gifts under the auspices of the National Council of Churches, at Cincinnati. Addresses were given by such men as F. Emerson Andrews of the Russell Sage Foundation; Gilbert Darlington, Treasurer of the American Bible Society; J. K. Lasser; Charles N. Wonacott, Philanthropic Consultant, Hanover Bank, New York; and others. Most of these men held that two of the greater unrealized possibilities for philanthropic giving are gifts from corporations and bequests in wills.

We have a conviction that God's resources are adequate to do the things He wants us to do, if and when we adopt the principles of true Christian stewardship. The discovering of consecrated men and money is a most necessary and, at the same time, a most rewarding endeavor as we seek to perpetuate and extend the evangelistic fervor and work of our Church. In our Methodism there are many persons who have a profound interest and joy in sharing and supporting the work of evangelism with their gifts and prayers as they have opportunity. We dare to believe that there are men and means adequate to evangelize the world when we, individually and collectively, launch out in that faith and make a complete and unreserved dedication of ourselves and our talents to the realization of the Master's great Commission.

Letters of Notification

Recognizing the growing problem of non-resident and inactive members, the General Conference took action attempt-

ing to help in its solution. The Methodist Publishing House has made available to pastors and local church Commissions on Membership and Evangelism, form "Letters of Notification" to be mailed to both non-resident members and pastors where those members are now living.

Additional to this, the *Discipline* provides that, when a pastor or local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism is unable to ascertain to which pastor or District Superintendent the "Letter of Notification" should be sent, it shall be sent to the General Board of Evangelism, who shall attempt to locate the pastor or District Superintendent and send it to him. The Department of Organization and Promotion attempts to perform this task for the General Board of Evangelism.

The immensity of this task is revealed in the letters from hundreds of pastors who are anxious to have their non-resident members transferred and properly affiliated with the church in the community in which they reside. Pastors seeking this assistance have sent to us in single letters lists of names of from one to more than 300 non-resident members. This entails a tremendous amount of time and expense, but we feel that the re-establishing of these members in the Church is a most effective work of Evangelism.

To be counted worthy of a call to share in the great work of evangelistic leadership in our Church is a humbling and challenging opportunity. To be associated in this great enterprise with men like these of our Staff, and the men and women of our Board, is a great joy and privilege. Every new day brings us to a re-commitment to our Christ and His call to be such a witness, that "by all means we may win some."

At the left, a miniature reproduction of a window sticker being used in connection with the Southeastern Evangelistic Mission.

At the right, the "Give God a Chance" Emblem.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Spiritual Life

G. ERNEST THOMAS, *Director*

The end of 1952 marked the completion of three years of service by the Spiritual Life Department as it is now constituted. In many respects it proved to be the most fruitful year because we were able to reap a harvest from the investment of time and effort previously expended in outlining plans and preparing literature. We were able to see more clearly the purposes which should be realized. Likewise, we were able to utilize our efforts to reach more people in more places to achieve the goals which have been before us for the past three years.

A casual look at the schedule which the Director followed during 1952 will indicate that the Spiritual Life Department can accurately be described as a "field" department. There was little time for office work. Interests and pressing needs for creative writing often seemed to indicate that additional time must be allocated for the labors which can best be accomplished at a desk, but always insistent requests from the field for help and guidance led us to put aside personal desires for home surroundings to take once again to the road or—more appropriately—to the air.

At a football game the spectator is often treated to the sound of a great crowd of home rooters exhorting the team to superhuman efforts by the chant: "Go . . . Go . . . Go!" In the Spiritual Life Department it is not the home rooters whom we hear shouting such a chant. Quite the contrary. The people at home are eager that we should stay. But the "Go . . . Go . . . Go!" comes from leaders—ministerial and lay—in every section of the Church. It comes as well from an awareness of the needs of that vast multitude of people who are members of The Methodist Church, and yet who are neglecting their obligations to the Church, or who have never realized that they have an obligation.

The pressing awareness of need to deepen the loyalty and devotion of that company of people who are new to the membership, or who are indifferent to the habits which make for spiritual power, becomes a re-echoing cry of "Go . . . Go . . . Go!" It is our unavoidable conviction that the human appeal for aid is undergirded by the Divine Commission of the Living Christ which keeps us pressing on, and out, and away.

A Cooperative Effort

The experience of 1952 has underlined the already familiar fact that the work of the Spiritual Life Department is a cooperative effort with many others who share like purposes and aims.

The work of the Department is a cooperative effort with every Department of the General Board of Evangelism. During 1950 and 1951 we were privileged to assist other Departments of the Board in programs and conferences. During 1952 we were blessed by the creative and consecrated assistance of all members of the Staff in such endeavors as the Spiritual Life Missions and the National Layman's Spiritual Life Retreat. Special mention should be made of the TIDINGS Department's part in the work of Spiritual Life. George H. Jones has been a comrade in service as he has developed the necessary literature, accommodating himself without complaint to the rapidly changing demands which develop in new and growing fields of endeavor. Nor should we fail to record the fact that Dr. Denman has sparked these cooperative efforts within the Departments of our Board by his unfailing interest and ideas.

The work of the Department is a cooperative effort with the Bishops, District Superintendents, Pastors, and General Board agencies of the Church. Again and again we find our goals coinciding with those of others who labor in the general Church, or in the Area, Conference, or local community. It is difficult to express adequately the appreciation which we feel for those who have worked with us or who have allowed us to work with them in seeking to "strengthen the brethren" who are members of The Methodist Church.

The work of the Department is a cooperative effort with the National Council of Churches, as represented by the Spiritual Life Committee. We learn from them; and it is a source of Christian joy that the National Council—and many individual denominations—have utilized our materials and plans to spread the message of a deepened spiritual life to members of other Churches.

This Department is continually working in areas in which cooperation is made essential by the related purposes which guide us. It is a pleasure to report that the spirit of cooperation has been unfailing.

Assimilation

When we examine the several fields of responsibility which have been entrusted to the Spiritual Life Department, we turn first to Assimilation. We have the obligation to offer plans and guidance by which pastors and churches may lead those who make a decision for Christ or for Church membership into a further and growing experience of the Christian life.

To achieve this goal our major means of approach to the pastor has been the series of lectures presented in the "Second Phase" Schools or "Periods of Power" for Pastors in United Evangelistic Missions. Through the cooperation of the United Evangelistic Missions Department we have been able to develop a series of lectures on the general theme of "Developing Disciples." The lectures have already been given by more than 150 men. They include three addresses in which ministers learn specific methods by which new members may be trained in the meaning of the faith and may be integrated into the life of the Church. The lectures include illustrations which have been taken from the field and suggest to every minister the possibilities which are open to him in his local church to assimilate those who are won for Christ.

We have sought out churches which are achieving results in assimilation and have invited the pastors of such churches to put their plans into writing for the benefit of others. Several such articles have been printed in *Shepherds*.

Furthermore, the Spiritual Life Mission has become an

important element in assimilation. Many Districts and Annual Conferences have conducted or are planning Missions in the year following their United Evangelistic endeavor to deepen the loyalty of those who were won to Christ. There is much to be said for the Spiritual Life Mission method by which a church can reach, not only indifferent members, but especially new members with the reminder of the obligations which fall to them by virtue of their relationship to the church.

The most rewarding fact about assimilation is that—during the past three years—the Church at large has been awakened to a new sensitiveness to this problem. It is now possible to secure excellent leadership to lecture in methods of assimilation among ministers who have themselves been made aware of the needs in this field and have developed workable methods which can be shared with others.

It should be said at this point that there is much cause for dissatisfaction when we observe what actually is happening in thousands of churches with regard to new members. Hundreds of thousands of people are received without preparation or training. Many are enrolled in the records as members without any formal service of reception at the altar of the church. Many more are received into the fellowship and then ignored. There is much still to be accomplished before we achieve the goal whereby every person who unites with the membership of The Methodist Church will learn something of the history and beliefs of his Church, will be received in a meaningful service of reception, and will be led into a growing service for Christ and the Kingdom as he has fellowship with those who are already members of the Church.

The Spiritual Life Department is striving unceasingly to develop this phase of the evangelistic work of our Board.

Spiritual Life Missions

The year 1952 saw the beginning of the Spiritual Life Mission as a workable technique to reclaim inactive members and to deepen the spiritual life of every member of the church.

Because Spiritual Life Missions promise to be a factor of increasing importance in the work of this Department, and of the General Board of Evangelism, it is well for us to consider some of the philosophy which undergirds the Spiritual Life Mission and some of the basic methods which are followed.

Three years ago the Church became increasingly conscious of the problem of the Inactive Member. Rapid increases in the number of listed inactive members after unification became a reason for growing alarm and anxiety. It was one of the fundamental purposes of this Department that we should seek to reclaim those members who were listed as inactive.

Parenthetically, it might seem that the problem was settled by the action of the General Conference of 1952 in dropping the listing of "Inactive Members," and requiring every member to be listed as "Active." There was justifiable reason for such an action by the General Conference when we recall the vast confusion which prevailed throughout the Church about the matter of who was an "inactive" member. There was wide divergence in interpretation and just as wide a difference in the percentage of the membership which was so listed.

The action of the General Conference was fraught with danger, however. The increased number of assessments which are made by Annual Conferences on the basis of total membership has become an encouragement to a smaller roll. Thousands of churches face the temptation to drop the former "inactive members" from the records entirely. Should that action be followed throughout the Church, approximately one out of every six members would be dropped. It is urgently necessary, therefore, that there should be offered to the local church helps by which inactive and indifferent members can be reclaimed. The Spiritual Life Mission is one practical and workable technique to achieve that end.

Another factor must be taken into consideration. Inactivity among church members is a relative matter. There is no solid and fixed line which marks the difference between an active and an inactive member. Some members might be rated as 90% active, some 60%, others 30%, or 20%, or 10%. And there would be no way to assign any member to a specific classification. Early in the development of plans for the Spiritual Life Mission we learned that there is danger in a Mission which calls for visitation upon only the inactive members. There were quick protests from people who resented being classified as "inactive." They soon indicated that they were as active as some others whom the church records had presumed to call "active."

It was evident that the technique to reach inactive members as listed must be extended to reach those who might be slightly more active in their attendance or giving, but who did not qualify as members who were living in all relationships according to the teaching and example of Jesus Christ. Beyond that, we came to realize that few members could be classified as 100% active and that all members needed the challenge to lift their conception of what is the necessary duty and privilege of a member of the Church. It was to meet that broader interpretation of active membership that the Spiritual Life Mission was developed.

What a Spiritual Life Mission Is

Let us consider more exactly what a Spiritual Life Mission is. First, it is a Mission to Church members. It is an endeavor to reach those who are already a part of the fellowship. Experience has indicated that a large number of people make decisions for Christ and for Church membership during a Spiritual Life Mission, but this purpose is secondary in the Mission which endeavors to reach those who are already members of the church and to deepen their spiritual lives.

No definition is completely satisfactory, but it may be said that the Spiritual Life Mission is an intensive effort (1) to acquaint every church member with the Holy Habits of the Spiritual Life (Church Attendance, Family Devotions and Grace at Meals, Personal Prayer and Bible Reading, Tithing, and Witnessing for Christ); and (2) to enlist every member to make a Covenant with Christ to observe those Habits.

It should be noted that the "Holy Habits" are a re-emphasis upon the promises which the church member made when he pledged to uphold the Church by his "presence, prayers, gifts, and service." Yet the Mission seeks to do more than ask for a re-commitment to keep this pledge of loyalty. It seeks to give specific training in how to do these things through the media of visitation and preaching. It seeks to reach every single member of the church where the Mission is conducted.

The Spiritual Life Department did not plunge into the Spiritual Life Mission without a great deal of preparation. We have taken several steps.

1. We have endeavored to show the need for such an endeavor by pointing out the trends in Church membership.

Through writing and lecturing we have laid the foundation for the Mission as an essential part of the evangelistic program of the local church.

2. We have endeavored to carry out the purposes of the Mission. It was no small task to prepare the chart, the commitment and enlistment cards, the report blanks, and leaflets and books to undergird the Mission. At the end of 1952—through the cooperation of *Tidings*—we were able to offer a rather complete list of materials which are tools in planning and carrying out a Spiritual Life Mission.

3. We tested the Spiritual Life Mission in a number of different situations before launching it in Washington, D. C. We tried it in local churches such as Inglewood in Nashville, Tennessee, in a District like the Savannah in the South Georgia Conference, in an Annual Conference like the Illinois where—in a reciprocal endeavor—nearly every church had a Mission.

It should be said that the techniques used in the Spiritual Life Mission are not in their final form. It took a number of years to perfect the Visitation Evangelism technique; it will take at least that number of years to discover the best way to reach every member with an invitation to practice the "Holy Habits."

We are handicapped by the very success of Visitation Evangelism. Many pastors think in terms of a number and kind of visitors similar to those used in their Visitation Evangelism endeavor. Others want to keep close to the pattern which they found successful in a United Evangelistic Mission. But the Spiritual Life Visitation is not to non-members and non-resident members, as is Visitation Evangelism; and, in the Spiritual Life Missions already conducted, we have ample evidence that a church membership can be awakened, and new life through Christ can be given to a people, when the Spiritual Life Mission techniques are followed.

Thus, the Spiritual Life Mission in Washington, D. C., in early December of 1952, was the culmination of plans which had been carefully sifted and tested in other fields. Men were invited to participate in the Washington Mission with full confidence that they would return home with definite patterns which could be used in their section of the country.

The story of what happened in Washington has been recorded elsewhere. Several conclusions need to be noted here because they have a definite relationship to the further work of the Spiritual Life Department.

1. In Washington 9,557 tithers were enlisted. That is an average of 56 tithers for each and every one of the churches which participated in the Mission. The Mission demonstrated the wisdom of linking tithing instruction and appeals with the total devotional responsibility of the individual church member.

2. In Washington 20,285 persons made a commitment to witness for Christ. Such a number of persons constitutes an amazing reservoir of people who can be used in evangelistic visitation. The rolls of such organizations as Fishermen's Clubs received tremendous encouragement as a result of the Spiritual Life Mission.

3. In Washington 1,839 persons made a commitment to unite with the Church either by profession of faith or by letter of transfer. When one considers the fact that the total was nearly 50% of that which was secured in the United Evangelistic Mission conducted in March of 1952, it becomes evident that there is wisdom in linking the invitation to make a first or renewed commitment for church membership with the endeavor to secure a Covenant to observe the Holy Habits.

It is evident that Spiritual Life Missions will be conducted in many sections of the Church within the next two years. Some of the Missions will be directed by this Department, more will be conducted by men chosen from the local field. But, however it may be done, we have reason to rejoice that the General Board of Evangelism has presented to the Church a plan by which members can be led into more active participation in the work of the local church, as well as into a deeper personal devotional life.

The Spiritual Life Mission plan has been unfolded. By God's grace and guidance we shall seek to make it an effective instrument in His hands.

Prayer Retreats

Addresses and leadership in Retreats for laymen and ministers have occupied an increasing amount of time during the past year. The rewards from the efforts expended have grown proportionately.

The National Layman's Spiritual Life Retreat in Buffalo, New York, was perhaps of greatest significance. Conducted cooperatively with the General Board of Lay Activities, it opened new doorways of opportunity. The Buffalo meeting was a "Retreat with Action." Laymen not only gathered from far and near for the usual component parts of a Retreat—prayer, meditation, and inspiration—but they witnessed for Christ in churches, on the street corner, and by means of radio and television.

The men who attended the Buffalo meeting were urgent in their requests that it should be continued annually. We therefore plan to cooperate with the General Board of Lay Activities in sponsoring another National Layman's Spiritual Life Retreat in the Fall of 1953.

Conclusion

This report does not seek to encompass the difficult experiences encountered during 1952 in travel. It makes no mention of the almost endless pressure to meet deadlines for articles, leaflets, and books. It does not include the constant turning to prayer as the means by which God's power is available to meet our pressing needs.

There is joy in serving the Lord in this work. That is why we keep at it—that and the pressing urgency of the task which needs to be accomplished. Though sometimes discouraged, and often lonely and tired, we continually rejoice in the number of victories which are granted to us.

The outreach of the Department will be multiplied this year by the assistance of the Rev. Wayne E. North of the Central Pennsylvania Conference as an associate. Mr. North is well qualified by training and experience to carry on the spiritual life work throughout the Church.

We would record again our gratitude for the privilege of working under the direction of this General Board of Evangelism and its Executive Committee, and for the privilege of being a comrade in service with Dr. Harry Denman and the other members of his staff. Above all, we would express our gratitude to Almighty God for His continuing mercies and for the daily presence of the Living Christ.

The Greater Washington Spiritual Life Mission

A survey was recently made of the members of one of the evangelical denominations in the State of Ohio. The following results were tabulated:

Of the total number of church members,

20% never pray
25% never read the Bible
30% never attend church
40% never give
50% never go to Sunday school
90% never have family worship
95% never invite another person to accept Christ
96% never tithe.

Members of The Methodist Church would probably show no higher percentage of loyalty to the holy habits of the spiritual life.

The Spiritual Life Mission came into being to meet that pressing need. It is a Mission to Church Members! It is designed to acquaint every church member with the habits of the spiritual life and seeks to lead every person to make a covenant to observe them.

The Spiritual Life School

Guest and host ministers met for a Spiritual Life School at Hamline Church, November 28 and 29, and from December 1 to 5. More than six hundred representative ministerial leaders took part in the daily sessions.

Two series of addresses set the tone for the endeavor. Bishop Hazen G. Werner of the Ohio Area spoke daily on the general theme: "Spiritual Needs in the Contemporary World."

Bishop F. Gerald Ensley of the Des Moines Area, speaking on the theme, "Basic Essentials in the Spiritual Life," addressed himself to the holy habits.

In keeping with the world emphasis upon evangelism in 1953, addresses were presented each day by Bishop Oxnam, Bishop Love, Bishop Garber, Dr. E. Stanley Jones, and Dr. Harry Denman.

The lectures in the Spiritual Life School showed the urgent necessity for a spiritual life movement, as well as suggesting methods and approaches which are adaptable to any church in any section of America.

The Work in the Churches

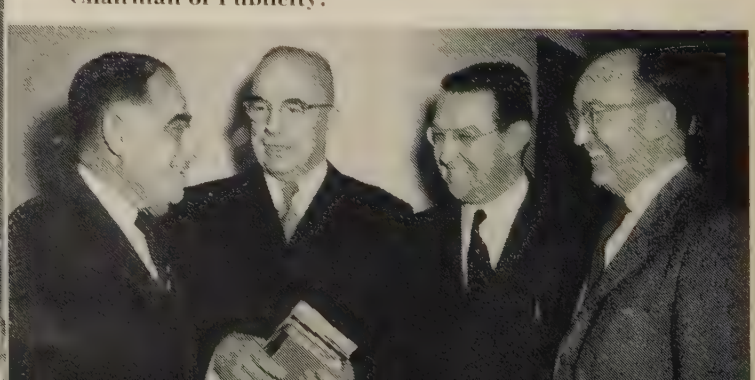
The Spiritual Life Mission in the local churches in Washington was a combined visiting and preaching endeavor (1) to acquaint every member of every church with the holy habits of the spiritual life; and (2) to enlist every member of every church to make a Covenant with Christ to observe them.

Each church was encouraged to seek at least twice as many visitors as were used in visitation evangelism. Some churches had three hundred visitors who were trained and who visited Sunday afternoon.

The program carried on in the local churches included the following elements:

1. Letters were sent thirty days before the Mission to every non-resident member of every church. Included in that list were the men and women in service and those attending college. Each one was invited to make his Covenant and to mail it to his church in time to be dedicated with those made during the week of the Mission.

Hamline Methodist Church, above left, where sessions of the Spiritual Life Mission were held. More than 600 ministers, below left, attend a Period of Power meeting in Hamline Church. Below, among the leaders were, left to right, Dr. John C. Millian, superintendent of the West Washington District, Chairman of the Mission; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, resident bishop of the Washington Area; G. Ernest Thomas, General Board of Evangelism; and Rev. Paul Harris, Chairman of Publicity.



2. A triumphant service was held in every church Sunday morning, November 30, when every worshiper was invited to make a Covenant at the conclusion of the sermon to observe the holy habits.

3. Visitors gathered at 2:30 o'clock to receive training, and then went out to call upon every member of the church who did not make a Covenant at the morning service.

4. Reports were received Sunday evening, and visiting was continued each night until every member had been reached.

5. Spiritual Life services were held each evening, beginning Sunday. Sermons were based successively on Church Attendance, Family Devotions, Prayer, Bible Reading, Tithing, and Witnessing. Those attending the services were invited to "advance" each evening beyond the commitment which they had made on Sunday.

What Were the Results?

Great victories were recorded in Washington! Statistics are a poor measuring rod to tell of family altars established or of new attitudes toward money which were born. But the following shows something of what happened:

Total number of members making a Covenant	35,307
Making a Covenant to Attend Every Sunday	23,138
Making a Covenant to Observe Grace at Meals	23,341
Making a Covenant to Pray and Read the Bible Daily	21,726
Making a Covenant to Have Family Devotions Daily	14,856
Making a Covenant to Tithe	9,557
Making a Covenant to Witness for Christ	20,285
Making a Covenant to Live for Christ in All Personal and Social Relationships	23,290

In addition, many people made a commitment to accept Christ and to unite with His Church. They included:

By Profession of Faith	934
By Letter of Transfer	905
Total	1,839

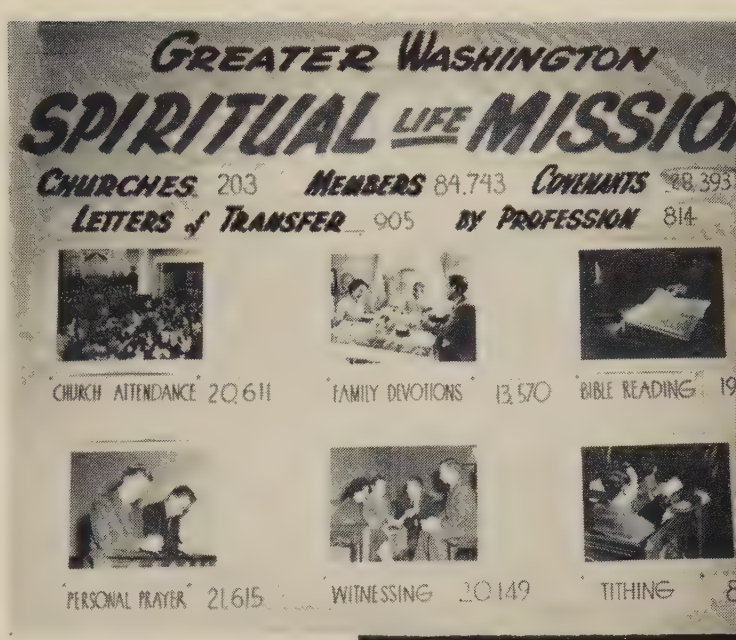
Not the End, But the Beginning

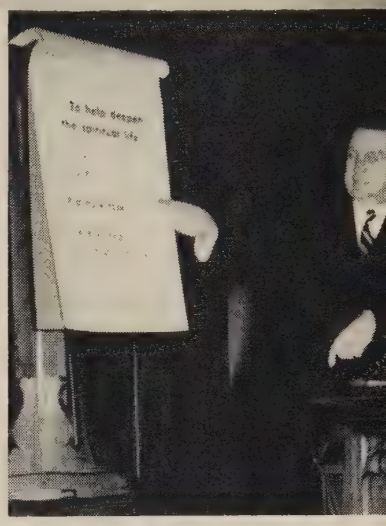
The Spiritual Life Mission in Washington is now a part of the recorded past. It is a pleasant and triumphant memory for hundreds of guest and host ministers who noted an eager response on the part of lay men and lay women to the urgent need for a closer walk with Christ.

Yet Washington will not remain merely a part of the past. The results of the Mission will continue to be felt in thousands of lives, in hundreds of homes, and in scores of churches which were transformed by the Mission.

But more than that, Washington will live on in the Spiritual Life Missions which will be conducted in the months and years ahead in every section of America.

A praying Church! A tithing Church! A witnessing Church! The Christian faith must become a part of the daily devotional and sharing experience of every confessed follower of Jesus Christ who bears the name of Methodist. It is the purpose of the Spiritual Life Mission to help every member of every church to learn what a privilege he has in daily prayer and Bible reading, and to covenant with Christ to observe these and other habits of the spiritual life. Because leaders in every section of America recognize the need to strengthen the fibers of faith—and because millions of church members have an inner longing for that experience—the Washington Spiritual Life Mission will live on and will enrich the lives of an uncounted multitude of Christians in the years ahead.





Shown above is the statistical chart used in the Periods of Power to record the Covenants obtained at each service held in the local churches. These figures are incomeplete, as the photograph was taken two days before the end of the Mission. At the right, G. Ernest Thomas explains the Spiritual Life chart.

Bishop Hazen G. Werner and Bishop Edgar A. Love examine the display of Upper Room and Tidings materials at the Spiritual Life Mission.

The North Carolina Delegation at the Spiritual Life Mission. With the group is Cecil Robbins, editor of the North Carolina Advocate.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Tidings—Department of Evangelistic Literature

GEORGE H. JONES, *Editor*

The General Board of Evangelism has two literature Departments—each separate and distinct within itself—one for "Devotional" and the other for "Evangelistic" materials and purposes. The name of each of these departments is derived from the Word of God: "The Upper Room" where prayer, communion with God and with the living Christ, was wont to be made: and "Tidings" which is the good news of the very Gospel itself. "Behold, I bring you good *tidings* of great joy, which shall be to all people," said the angel, as the glory of God shone about the shepherds on Bethlehem's plains. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

The greatest hymns of the Church and the greatest literature of the ages take up this message:

"Tell the blessed *tidings,* children of the King,
With your glad hosannas, make the morning ring."

"Heralds of Christ, who bear the King's commands,
Immortal *tidings* in your mortal hands,
Pass on and carry swift the news ye bring:
Make straight, make straight the highway of the King."

"Publish glad *tidings*:
Tidings of peace:
Tidings of Jesus,
Redemption and release."

So it is with a profound sense of mission, and of commission, that TIDINGS endeavors to promote the work of Christian evangelism in general, and of the Board of Evangelism in particular, by means of the printed word.

TIDINGS strives to make The Methodist Church an evangelistic Church through the medium of literature. It strives to make pastors and churches evangelistically-minded that their one ambition and consuming passion might be the bringing of men and women and boys and girls to Christ, and keeping them there close to the heart of God and growing in His likeness.

A Personal Word

This is my tenth year as editor of the evangelistic materials of the General Board (formerly Commission) of Evangelism. They have been busy and happy (and, I trust, fruitful) years.

When I came on October 1, 1943, the TIDINGS Department had not been organized. There were two workers handling our evangelistic literature, and another part-time worker. The full-time office worker was Miss Mildred Sanders. As the head of our Tidings Business Office she now has six full-time helpers and occasionally needs extra help. The only person in our evangelistic literature (TIDINGS) Shipping Room was Mr. E. L. Donoho who now has from six to eight persons working with him all the time, and many more on the days that *Shepherds* is being mailed out. They have meant much to the TIDINGS Department during the years.

Now our TIDINGS Department Editorial Staff is composed of (1) my very able Editorial Associate, since September 1950, Gordon Pratt Baker of the Baltimore Conference, one to whom I owe much, (2) John L. Sandlin of the South Carolina Conference, who just left the pastorate of the Bethel Methodist Church in Columbia on February 15 to become our Editorial Associate also, (3) John G. Walton, a layman, our Director of Promotion since December 1950, (4) Edward Ferguson, Jr., a young layman, our "layout" technician since October 1952, (5) Mrs. Edna Jones Hargrave who has rendered very valuable service as my personal secretary since January 1945, (6) Mrs. Jewell Richardson Bishop, our office secretary since May 1950, with some intervening months missing, and (7) Mrs. Betty Richardson, secretary since September 1952.

Thus we now have the largest Editorial Staff we have yet had. This has become necessary because of the ever-increasing amount of editorial duties in providing evangelistic materials for an enlarging Board. Thus, also, has the TIDINGS Department grown from 2½ workers in September 1943 to twenty or more within less than 10 years. Besides this, we now get expert supervisory help in the shipping room and business departments from the Central Business Office, for which we are grateful.

This growth has come about because of an increased demand for our literature which we are creating and distributing as a part of our effort to help make The Methodist Church an evangelistic Church.

Purpose and Functions

Because this is the first year of a new quadrennium, and many members of our General Board of Evangelism are serving on it for the first time, it has been suggested that we give something of the philosophy of our TIDINGS Department. This we gladly do. First, we call your attention to the statement of the purpose and functions of the Department that you adopted in your organizational meeting last August 1. (See page 26.) This is but a slight enlargement of the statement of our functions which was adopted last quadrennium. We shall strive to keep these purposes ever in mind. Now for our fundamental philosophy, most of which you already know.

Our TIDINGS Department of Evangelistic Literature operates under the authority of the General Board of Evangelism, which derives from the *Discipline,* and the expressed will of the General Conference itself, its authority to create "a literature to serve the cause of evangelism" and to "diffuse the blessings of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ by the promotion and support of all forms and phases of evangelism."

The Commission on Evangelism, created by the Uniting Conference itself, issued *Tidings,* a little magazine dealing with the "motives, message, and methods" of evangelism. The First General Conference (1940) charged the Commission on Evangelism with "the responsibility of creating an intelligent interest in and passion for evangelism, and of promoting all types and phases of evangelism among the ministers and laity throughout the entire Church." In order that this might be done effectively, the General Conference specifically said that the Commission should cooperate "in the training of ministers

for leadership in the field of evangelism" and "in creating a literature to serve the cause of evangelism."

Each successive General Conference has recognized this duty and has said that the General Board of Evangelism "shall elect such secretaries [for promoting evangelism] and such editors [for developing evangelistic literature] as may be needed."

It was in and through the magazine, *Tidings*, launched before the first General Conference met, that the General Commission (and then the General Board) of Evangelism first was able to promote successfully its distribution of printed materials to serve the cause of evangelism. In fact, the name "Tidings" became the imprint and trade mark on the materials; and finally, with the growth of the Board and its organization into Departments, it was natural for the Department of Evangelistic Literature to be called the TIDINGS Department of Evangelistic Literature.

"Publish glad tidings:
Tidings of peace,
Tidings of Jesus,
Redemption and release."

To Serve Evangelism

The TIDINGS Department strives to serve the purpose for which it was created. Its sole aim is to serve the cause of evangelism. It devoted its energies to working with and for the other Departments of the Board in creating and distributing literature for them, and in creating the low-priced materials that pastors and churches need and want, and that can be found nowhere else—materials on evangelism, the Church, and the Christian life.

All TIDINGS materials revolve around the fundamental concepts and duties of evangelism:

Finding persons for Christ;

Winning persons for Christ and His Church;

Training persons for Christ and His Church;

Developing disciples for better Christian living;

Deepening the spiritual life or making more mature Christians.

In creating materials that revolve around these evangelistic responsibilities, the TIDINGS Department provides materials that can be used both by (1) pastors and local church commissions on membership and evangelism in carrying out their work, and by (2) individuals themselves for their own spiritual benefit.

By far the largest proportion of TIDINGS' materials (booklets, leaflets, cards, filmstrips, charts, etc., and *Shepherds* itself) are concerned with practical plans and programs of evangelism. These are either what we call "How" materials or are "tools" for the carrying out of the various plans and programs and methods. Nearly all of these programs have become movements, due in a large measure to the distribution and use of these materials. We name the following fields of evangelistic operation which these materials help:

Church attendance

Religious Census

Visitation Evangelism

Personal Evangelism

Prayer Evangelism

Pulpit Evangelism

Youth Evangelism

United Evangelistic Missions

Spiritual Life Missions

Assimilating New Members

Training New Members

TIDINGS has materials that give practical guidance in all of the above. A quick glance at the names of some individual items will reveal this:

"See You in Church Sunday"

"Give God A Chance"

"How to Conduct a Religious Census"

"How to Have a Successful Week of Visitation Evangelism"

"The Greatest Work in the World—Studies in Personal Evangelism"

"A Primer of Prayer"

"How to Make Your Preaching Revival a Reaching Revival"

"Local Church Guide Book for the United Evangelistic Mission"

"How to Conduct a Spiritual Life Mission"

"Assimilating New Members"

"How to Be a Fellowship Friend"

"The Holy Habits of the Spiritual Life"

"A Primer for Christian Living"

"Self-Helps for New Members"

"The Methodist Primer"—etc., etc.

Production and Distribution

These practical materials can be produced only in the stream of evangelism itself, can be created only by persons who work in these fields—who literally live in this atmosphere and are giving their lives for these purposes.

Likewise such materials can best be distributed only by persons who are genuinely interested in them, who are living for evangelism, like the staff members of the Board itself. For the most part these materials are small items. Only persons who can visualize the good that these materials can do, would be interested in distributing them. There is really no profit in selling cards at 50c per 100, when you have to print them, advertise them, receive orders, wrap them, and pay postage, collect for them, etc.; nor is there profit in 2c leaflets, or even in 25c books, unless their quantity is enormous. So we say that these materials must be promoted by men who are in the field and who are on the job for evangelism. We are convinced from experience that the hundreds of small items that constitute evangelistic materials (many of which are so nearly the same and yet each one different) cannot be handled successfully by depositories and retail stores, but only by those who deal exclusively with them. This is what our Board staff men do, and also our TIDINGS Department.

Not only must these materials be personal and pointed, forged in the fires of evangelistic experience, but they also must be sold at low price for quantity distribution. First, it is obvious that they must be sold. All the World Service money that comes to the General Board of Evangelism will not place one postal card in the hands of every Methodist. This was true

last quadrennium with the one-cent postal; it is true this quadrennium with the two-cent postal.

Then, too, churches should buy evangelistic materials—just as they buy church school and other materials. When churches buy materials—upon order—they will use them. Send them what they don't want, what they don't see any need for and didn't order anyway, and they will not use them. So it is, churches buy TIDINGS materials. That is a sure sign that they want them. If they didn't buy, TIDINGS wouldn't print, for TIDINGS must make all its literature pay for itself (TIDINGS uses no World Service money for any purpose.)

These TIDINGS materials, as already said, must be sold, and that at low price. You can sell a pastor or a church a $3.00 book; but you can't sell him, or it, many. The price of TIDINGS materials must be low enough so churches can buy in quantities: leaflets and cards for general distribution to every home or every member, and booklets for wide distribution and possibly for re-sale at literature racks or literature tables. And so it is that TIDINGS booklets—for example, *The Methodist Primer, The Holy Habits of the Spiritual Life,* and *A Primer for Christian Living,*—which are written for the church members themselves and not just for the pastor or selected leaders, must sell in quantities for a quarter each (25c)—the natural coin for such a sale—and the smaller booklets for a dime (10c) —also the natural coin.

Morover, in selling at such prices the usual 40% discount that publishers make to book dealers and retail stores cannot be given. There simply isn't that much margin of profit there. There isn't any profit at all—after all costs are paid: editorial, promotional, printing, servicing, mailing, collecting, etc. It has truly been a marvel how close together the total receipts and the total expenditures of the TIDINGS Department of Evangelistic Literature have been during the years.

No General Promotional Mailings

Shepherds has been the one regular, effective *evangelistic* instrument of the whole Church and has done more than anything else to make The Methodist Church an evangelistic Church. It has promoted every form of Evangelism that is promoted by the General Board, and has taken the place of all the "general promotional mailings" that otherwise would have been necessary to be made by every Department of the General Board, and it has done it effectively. If the other Departments, the field or "World Service" Departments of the General Board, had sent out a total of only twelve general promotional mailings during the year—one a month, and certainly they would have needed to send more than that—and if each of the mailings to the 25,000 pastors, district superintendents, bishops, and other evangelistic leaders had cost only 6c per individual mailing (and this estimate is too low), the total cost would have been $1,500.00 a month or $18,000.00 a year.

This $18,000.00 promotional expense would have had to come out of the money that the General Board gets from World Service, had it not been for *Shepherds* Magazine. As it was, not one cent of World Service money was used for a general promotional mailing. The TIDINGS Department bore this cost all last quadrennium, in giving *Shepherds* magazine free-of-charge to all pastors, district superintendents, and other evangelistic leaders in the promotion of its evangelistic materials prepared to "serve the cause of evangelism" as outlined by the General Conference. Thus the TIDINGS Department actually saved much World Service money for evangelism.

Commissions on Membership and Evangelism

The TIDINGS Department of Evangelistic Literature is serving evangelism even better this quadrennium by sending *Shepherds,* not only to all Methodist pastors, but also to the chairman of every local church Commission on Membership and Evangelism (whose names and addresses we can secure) as set up by the recent General Conference. Think of the great amount of good that can be accomplished during this new quadrennium by putting into the hands of the layman who lead the program of evangelism in 40,000 churches an attractive magazine each month filled with practical evangelistic plans and programs, a magazine that tells what others are doing and that presents effectively the messages, motives, and methods of evangelism! And this is done at no cost to World Service, at no detriment to any World Service Agency, and at no cost to the local church itself, except as it purchases extremely low-priced materials in order the better to do the work of evangelism.

Money spent by the local church for evangelism and evangelistic materials is like bread cast upon the waters. It returns to the church. It brings forth much fruit in new lives, new persons, more persons, better-developed persons, and thus more money for church schools, church buildings, missions, and every item of church work and Kingdom service. This is what the TIDINGS Department of Evangelistic Literature is striving to do in promoting its assigned task: to help build every Kingdom enterprise.

Statement from Director of Promotion

John G. Walton, our Director of Promotion, has this to say: The influence of *Shepherds* as a journal of evangelistic methods, programs, and inspiration, is continually increasing. This is indicated by its rapid growth in circulaton. The current (March, 1953) printing order for *Shepherds* is 60,000 copies, as compared with 32,000 copies printed for the September, 1951, issue.

The largest addition to *Shepherds* subscription list during the last eighteen months is the list of names of 15,000 chairmen of local church Commissions on Membership and Evangelism. The subscriptions for these chairmen are entered on a complimentary basis by virtue of their official church position. We are indebted to the pastors, district and conference secretaries of evangelism, and district superintendents for their fine cooperation in furnishing us the names of these chairmen.

Shepherds is also sent without charge to approximately 24,000 Methodist ministers and 500 chaplains stationed in the States. An additional 1,000 copies are sent overseas to missionaries, Central Conference ministers, and chaplains.

Another aspect of real significance is the acceptance that *Shepherds* has received among pastors of other denominations. An examination of the *Shepherds* stencil files reveals that 15,000 copies of each issue are mailed to ministers of 35 other denominations! We receive many letters from these ministers in which they express their appreciation of *Shepherds* and the opportunity to receive it regularly. Only recently a Wisconsin pastor, serving in another denomination, wrote us as follows:

"A quick perusal [of a copy of *Shepherds*] gave me a decided thrill as I glanced over the challenging and inspiring articles. While our methods are perhaps slightly different, I believe that you have the right idea. Evangelism, in all its forms, needs to be stressed and revived. And our lay people

need a rebirth of the idea which possessed the early church,—that the spread of the 'Good Tidings' is the task of every Christian."

From Canada another pastor writes: *"Shepherds* impresses me very much with its over all quality and practical value to every minister. I am sure all the ministers of my denomination are grateful for the opportunity to receive your excellent journal."

More About "Shepherds"

It has been our custom in our report each year to quote a good many unsolicited testimonies from the field covering *Shepherds.* In fact, last year we quoted from Methodist pastors, district superintendents, bishops, general boards and agencies, missionaries, and chaplains, and also evangelistic leaders and pastors of other denominations. We could repeat this with new testimonies this year, but we add only a few to the ones that Mr. Walton has already given:

"I eagerly look forward to each issue of *Shepherds,* as it is a great help in the evangelistic program of the local church."—*Wilford C. Smith, pastor, Camarillo, California.*

Shepherds is one of the finest magazines of Methodism and its value can never be estimated. Surely, it is a channel through which God is working."—*Eugene Darling, pastor, Rock Island, Illinois.*

"The spiritual magazine, *Shepherds,* is truly named. It is getting more helpful and searching all the time. It is the best that our church prints."—*A. L. Beatty, pastor, Shelburn, Indiana.*

"I am compelled to write and say a word to express gratitude. *Shepherds* is more than an assistant pastor; it is part of my mind and hands. It has become my work-bench. With *Shepherds* before me I begin to plan, and shape, construct and execute the vital spiritual ministry of the living church. I find myself rolling along in my local parish to the tune and tempo of the minds and hearts of *Shepherds'* staff. I am grateful. I could not keep silent. I had to tell you."—*Henry A. Guy, Methodist pastor, Largo, Florida.*

"Enclosed is a copy of the little booklet on local church organization which the General Conference ordered us to get out. If you think well of the idea, we would be most grateful for any plug you might give us in some future issue of *Shepherds.* We know that's one magazine the preachers all read!"
—*Shelby Southard, Editor, Methodist Layman*

"*Shepherds* is a very helpful publication to me in my effort to promote the evangelistic work of our churches, and I am grateful to you and your staff for the splendid services you are rendering."—*E. D. Worley, District Superintendent, Chattanooga, Tennessee.*

"I shall encourage my 45 ministers to make faithful use of *Shepherds,* because I still am of the opinion that yours is the most helpful pastoral publication I have seen."—*Thomas A. Williams, district superintendent, Hutchinson, Kansas, recently from a long-term pastorate.*

"I want to express my personal appreciation to you for the excellent cooperation which is obtaining between our two departments. I am particularly grateful for the fine display that you have given to the Lenten material on pages 22-24 of the March issue of *Shepherds.* This is the type of cooperative relationship which I feel can do much to strengthen the cause in these important days."—*Harold W. Ewing, Director, Youth Department, General Board of Education.*

"*Shepherds* magazine is a great help to me in my ministry. I find so many nice articles in the magazine that are very useful for me to follow in my desire to win lost souls for Christ and at the same time to keep my church advancing for Christ and His Church. I am very happy indeed for the magazine that you are sending me."—*F. F. Bauzon, The Methodist Church, San Nicholas, Pangasinan, Philippines.*

We conclude these testimonies with one concerning Tidings literature as a whole:

"It is a great pleasure to note what you are doing in the field of Christian literature—nothing to equal it. We are proud to circulate it. I leave your literature every week in our two large hospitals—one is the largest Roman Catholic hospital in Northern Ontario. Keep me on your mailing list."—*I. Semple, pastor, Trinity United Church, North Bay, Ontario, Canada.*

Evangelistic Emphases

The TIDINGS Department, through *Shepherds* and other literature, has helped promote the following special days, weeks, seasons, and evangelistic emphases since the last Board meeting:

National Week of Lay Visitation Evangelism
Personal Evangelism during Lent
Membership Training Classes
Productive Easter Ingathering
Fifty Great Days—Easter to Pentecost
Bishops' Call to Prayer for the General Conference
National Family Week
Spiritual Life Week in every church
Aldersgate
Pentecost
Youth Work Camps of Evangelism
Summer Revivals
Rural Life Issue of Shepherds
Sunday Night Revivals
World Wide Communion Sunday
"Give God A Chance" campaign
"Find Your Prospects"
Protestant Reformation Week
Put Christ in the Advent Season
A Christian Christmas Observance
Watch Night
Communion Covenant Sunday
Universal Week of Prayer
World Mission of Evangelism
Letters of Notification
Festival of Faith
Lay Visitation Evangelism During Lent

Cooperation

We have cooperated with other Methodist boards and agencies and their special emphases, as follows:

The Advance for Christ
The Week of Dedication
World Service Program and Agencies
Board of Education
Evangelism on the Campus
Membership Training materials
Methodist Series of Protestant Radio Hour

Abingdon-Cokesbury books
Christian Witness Mission
Call to the Ministry
Board of Lay Activities
Layman's Day and Men's Club
Woman's Division—Spiritual Life Emphasis
Religion in American Life
Universal Bible Sunday—American Bible Society
Bible Reading, Thanksgiving to Christmas
Rural Church of the Year
Scarritt College Music Workshop

For the Board of Evangelism

Our TIDINGS Editorial Staff produced the following promotional items for the Board of Evangelism during the year:

"Victory"—32 pages—an illustrated brochure concerning the United Evangelistic Missions, for distribution at the General Conference.

"Call to Evangelism"—8 pages—the message to the Church and the quadrennium program adopted by the General Conference.

"Local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism"—8 pages—giving the Personnel and the Duties of this new Commission.

"Christ Can Change the World"—12 pages—World Mission of Evangelism brochure.

"Inside Washington"—a 4-page pictorial brochure giving results of the Washington Spiritual Life Mission.

"Call to Prayer"—a 4-page folder on the Call to Prayer for the Southeastern Jurisdiction U.E.M. by the College of Bishops.

"You Need Christ Now"—a large, 8-page, 2-color brochure on the Southeastern Jurisdiction U.E.M.

Two items—a brochure and a poster for Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting.

A total of 209,000 copies of these nine promotional items were printed.

For the Spiritual Life Department

TIDINGS Department attempts to work in close harmony with every Department of the Board to produce the materials required by them. For example, since the last Board meeting the TIDINGS Department has produced the following for the Department of Spiritual Life:

Miniature Chart Booklet (of the old Spiritual Life Chart)
Spiritual Life Evangelism Chart—"Strengthen Thy Brethren"—new enlarged—two-colors—professionally done
"Spiritual Life Visitation"—6-page folder—A "review piece"
Spiritual Life Covenant card (revised twice)
How to Conduct a Spiritual Life Mission (revised)
Guidebook for Washington Spiritual Life Mission
Window stickers for Washington Spiritual Life Mission
Poster for Washington Spiritual Life Mission
Prayer Cards for Washington Mission
Attendance Cards for Washington Mission
Mats for Spiritual Life Mission
Three Newsletters for Spiritual Life Missions

Moreover, we developed Spiritual Life Mission Packets for churches of various sizes to use in these missions.

For the U. E. M. Department

The marvelous success of the United Evangelistic Missions and the large number of missions that have been held have caused the TIDINGS Editorial Department to be continually busy preparing materials for the missions. The following items are used in some form for every mission:

"Statement of Agreement" forms
Guest Pastor Blanks
Host Pastor Blanks
Report Blanks
Report Envelopes
Newsletters (series of 7 different ones)
Thank Offering Envelopes
"My Advance for Christ" cards
Posters
Window Cards
Attendance Pledge Cards
Prayer Covenant Cards
Newspaper Mats
Letterheads
Local Church Guide Books

Some of these items have to be revised with every mission, because of the change of dates and of suggested improvements and change in strategy of the mission.

For the Southeastern Jurisdiction Mission which is being held during April and May of this year, all of the above are being used, and also the following new materials:

"My Christian Experience," a spiritual experience questionnaire
Prayer Posters
"You Need Christ Now" stamps
Hymnal Bands
Area Guide Books (7 different ones)

Filmstrip, "Planning Your United Evangelistic Mission," with sound recordings, prepared by the United Evangelistic Mission Department, TIDINGS, and the Methodist Radio and Film Commission.

Tract-of-the-Month Club

In order to render a greater ministry with tracts, and to encourage churches to use tracts regularly as a means of building up the spiritual life of their members and of reaching the unchurched, in May 1950, TIDINGS started a Tract-of-the-Month Club. Approximately 2,000 churches have used this regular tract service since its beginning, and have received the tract designated for the month. Each Tract-of-the-Month has a first printing of at least 200,000 copies.

Beginning with January, 1952, these tracts have been issued as follows:

1952

January—"Give God A Chance," Ralph W. Sockman
February—"Too Busy for God," Bishop Ralph S. Cushman
March—"I Will Follow Christ," Lowell B. Hazzard
April—"Christ Is Alive Today," G. Ray Jordan
May—"God Calls and We Answer," G. Ernest Thomas
June—"I Believe in the Church," Gordon Pratt Baker

July and August—none. Only ten tracts a year
September—"A Spiritual Checkup," W. E. Sangster
October—"Draw Near With Faith," Bishop W. Earl Ledden
November—"Let God Help You," George W. Crane
December—"Needed: An Evangelistic Christmas," Bishop Hazen G. Werner

1953

January—"The Christian Commitment," Aubrey G. Walton
February—"The Power of God," J. W. Haywood
March—"Keep Yourself Christian," W. Mark Depp
April—"Immortality," Eva M. Wallace

Other Tracts and Small Items

Other tracts and small items which we have issued since our last Board meeting are as follows: (not listed in order of printing)

"What Methodists Believe," by the Council of Bishops
"Some Essential Methodist Beliefs," Robert G. Tuttle
"Why Join The Methodist Church," Howard B. Warren
"How to Join The Methodist Church," Karl F. Moore
Festival of Faith—a series of 12 cards by 12 Methodist Bishops, each dealing with a statement of "What Methodists Believe"
"What Every Protestant Should Know," Paul E. Folkers
"My God and I," a spiritual examination questionnaire
"How to Have a Preaching and Reaching Revival"
World Wide Mission of Evangelism Covenant Card
Service of Worship for Communion Covenant Sunday
Communion Covenant Sunday Covenant Card
World Wide Communion Bulletin
Printed Communion Service, "The Lord's Supper"
We have already printed 400,000 of "What Methodists Believe"

Booklets and Other Materials

Probably the two items released during 1952 which required the most time editorially were the new Spiritual Life Evangelism Chart, "Strengthen Thy Brethren," and the new visitation evangelism filmstrip, "Laymen Witness for Christ," with sound phonograph recordings. Both of these were professionally done by the Jam Handy Organization. They required two trips to Detroit, and are quite excellent.

The booklets printed since the last Board meeting are as follows:

"Theology and Evangelism," by Edwin Lewis
"Evangelism for Our Age," by Thirteen Methodist Bishops
Chart Booklet, a miniature reproduction of V. E. Turn Over Chart
"Preach on These Things," by Leslie J. Ross
"Preach the Word," a chart booklet on pulpit evangelism, by Eugene E. Golay
"If They Are Really Prophets," by Bishop Gerald Kennedy
"Lay Preaching in the Rural Church," by Charles A. Stuck
"America, Whither Bound?" by G. Ernest Thomas
"Recapturing Pentecost," by Halford E. Luccock
"Tell Me the Story of John Wesley," a picture booklet prepared by the Tidings editors
"The Methodist Primer," by Bishop Charles C. Selecman (Revised edition) This has been our best selling booklet during the years, and a total of 675,000 copies have been printed thus far.

We make no attempt to mention the many cards, leaflets, and booklets that we have reprinted during the year.

Other Protestant Denominations

The great majority of Tidings materials are prepared in such a way that they can serve Christian evangelism in general and be used by almost any denomination. The word "Methodist" is not used except in those items that deal specifically with The Methodist Church or with the Methodist program of evangelism. In those cases, we try to let the title carry the fact that it is for Methodists.

You will be glad to know that other denominations buy Tidings' materials. This is particularly true of our Turn Over Charts and Visitation Evangelism filmstrips. Secretaries of Evangelism of several other denominations purchase these materials in quantities at quantity rates for distribution from their headquarters. This has been true for several years with our visitation evangelism materials, and recently it has been true with our spiritual life materials.

The Secretaries of Evangelism of an increasing number of denominations announce some of our materials in their printed releases. This is especially true concerning visitation evangelism, spiritual life, assimilating newcomers, and our Turn Over Charts and filmstrips.

We believe that our magazine *Shepherds,* and our other Tidings' materials are having more and more influence on the pastors of other denominations and are making them more evangelistic. Some of them take our plans and programs and use them with greater zeal and accuracy than many Methodist pastors.

Tidings Materials Distributed — 1952

We give a tabulation by months of the number of pieces of Tidings sales materials that were distributed during the calendar year 1952. We list both the regular materials and the special materials prepared for the United Evangelistic Missions. Of course it is impossible to say that these figures are completely accurate, but we do know that any inaccuracy is in the nature of an understatement, and that actually more materials were distributed than our reports show.

	Regular Materials	*U.E.M. Materials*	*Total*
January	2,009,033	33,092	2,042,125
February	996,136	125,660	1,121,796
March	973,956	3,784,034	4,757,990
April	396,439	7,650	404,089
May	324,482	2,321	326,803
June	310,616	214,573	525,189
July	423,923	24,121	448,044
August	930,445	71,114	1,001,559
September	2,320,985	117,504	2,438,489
October	1,237,998	92,530	1,330,528
November	811,944	29,031	840,975
December	1,344,302	214,734	1,559,036
Totals	12,080,259	4,716,364	16,796,623

The above figures do not take into consideration the number of copies of promotional materials, descriptive Order

Blank folders, *Shepherds* magazine, and other items that were distributed without charge to churches and evangelistic leaders. Including such items, the above total would approximate 19,000,000 pieces.

Likewise, large quantities of United Evangelistic Mission materials and regular materials have been distributed during the months of January, February, and March of 1953 which will be reported to our Board meeting next year. In fact, these three months constitute the months of largest literature distribution the TIDINGS Department has ever had.

Editorial Matters

The editors share much responsibility in handling correspondence and other matters that pertain to evangelism and the work of the Board in a general way. From time to time they have written articles (other than *Shepherds* articles) for the Church and secular press on the work of evangelism and of the Board.

The most of the materials that the TIDINGS Department prints, the editors simply select and edit, but some of it they write, especially for specific purposes pertaining to evangelistic plans and programs. The editors have to read a large amount of materials. Many suggested articles are sent them, proposed leaflet manuscripts, and even book manuscripts. Lots of them cannot be used, but require a large amount of reading and correspondence. That which is accepted has to be carefully edited, oftentimes revised, sometimes re-written. That which is accepted and printed has to be read as many as four times.

The editors are much indebted to a committee of very able members of the Board who have assisted them in appraising the value of manuscripts and making recommendations concerning materials that should be printed.

Editorial Travels

During 1952, Gordon Pratt Baker, Editorial Associate, participated in the Norfolk-Portsmouth-Newport News (Va.) United Evangelistic Mission, the Terre Haute (Ind.) Youth Work Camp of Evangelism, the Washington Spiritual Life Mission, and the Nashville District Leadership Training School.

The editor had the privilege of participating in the "Cuba for Christ" Mission, the National Laymen's Spiritual Life Retreat at Buffalo, N. Y., the Florida United Evangelistic Mission Planning Conference, the Washington Spiritual Life Conference, the meeting of the Literature Committee of the Joint Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches, and many other conferences and planning gatherings like the "Committee of 50."

Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting

For the last two years the editor has had the privilege of promoting the Warren A. Candler Camp Meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction at Lake Junaluska for a 10-day period each year in June and July. Plans are being made for another Camp Meeting this year which should cause it to have an even greater impact upon the Jurisdiction and Church.

Conclusion

In all of our work the TIDINGS Department is indebted to Dr. Harry Denman for his continual oversight, guidance, and suggestions, and to the staff members of the Board, especially D. E. Jackson, Business Manager. They are all a constant help and do much in helping create and distribute our evangelistic materials.

Evangelistic literature is tremendously important. It can be made to reach the indifferent, to win the person without hope and without God, to reclaim the inactive, to confirm the church member in his faith, build up his spiritual life, bring him into a warm and vital fellowship with God, make him an evangelistic member, even an active and crusading follower of Christ and a tall son of God. Next to the Bible, evangelistic literature is needed to reach every person. We must make it do so.

Ours is a great Church; ours is a great Board. It has the greatest work in the world to do. TIDINGS wants to do its part in winning this world for Christ, and it solicits the active cooperation of every member of this Board in this task of evangelism through literature.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Negro Work

J. W. GOLDEN, *Director*

Mr. Chairman, Members of the General Board of Evangelism, and Friends:

We make our report with a heart of thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for His abundant blessings and divine guidance, which have been so evident as we have sought to know and do His will.

We also make mention of our profound gratitude to the Bishops, District Superintendents, pastors, and laymen, as well as to our staff members whose encouragement and help we have had in the work to which we have been called.

Our Task

We are conscious of the fact that this work of Evangelism, which is to win disciples to Christ and His Church and to develop Christian personalities, demands of us a full measure of devotion, unfaltering faith, complete surrender to the will of God, and entire consecration of life to His service.

By the use of various methods we have continuously sought to enlist, instruct, and inspire an increasing number of workers, so that many persons may be brought into the Church and so that there may be increased faithfulness and service on the part of those already in our membership. May they become a tremendous force in the moral reform and spiritual development of our communities—Christian architects of a wholesome social structure in a new world order for peace and brotherhood!

Objectives

To this end we are making use of every possible means to awaken the consciousness of every individual member to the fact that he or she, by the grace of God, can make a contribution toward the evangelization of the community, nation, and world. This is the major objective.

Where shall we begin such a great task? By what methods can we accomplish it? Are we really able?

Our answer is: We are endeavoring to follow the order given the early disciples to begin at Jerusalem and to continue throughout Judea and Samaria and go even to the uttermost parts of the earth. In fact, we must begin with ourselves at home, our community, and nation, and then go on to the remote sections of our world.

The Christian Family

In local church and other groups, and in Christian Family Conferences, emphasis has been placed upon the importance of the daily practice of the Holy Habits. This practice is essential in helping to shape the lives and destinies of our children and young people. Our examples are often more influential and lasting than our advice.

We lift up the family as the most important unit in our social structure, and for its moral defense and spiritual security we are emphasizing the use of the Bible and *The Upper Room* in individual and family devotions, the custom of grace at meals, and daily Christian living.

In this connection, as chairman of the Commission on Evangelism and Worship of the National Fraternal Council of Churches, U.S.A., Inc., we presented a memorial, which said, in part: "The members of the denominations that constitute this Council, united in prayer daily, should become a great force in the nation and the world in developing right human relationships, in promoting the cause of peace, Christian fellowship, and world brotherhood.

"We believe that more has been accomplished through prayer than has been conceived or believed by men.

"Therefore, we call upon our ministers everywhere to join us, and we invite their members to join us, in a Prayer League to pray daily for our national leaders, and for these causes.

"Resolved, That we condition ourselves through prayer, so that we may be practical Christians in every detail of daily life, that our discipleship may carry us far beyond the limits of the first mile in Christian attitudes and service."

This memorial was approved. The Council represents thirteen Negro denominations with more than seven million members. This pledge of prayer, among other things, has been made known to our new President, Dwight D. Eisenhower, who has gratefully acknowledged its importance in this atomic age.

The Local Church Community

We have continued as witnesses of our Lord, preaching and teaching for verdicts in churches, schools, tents, shops, jails, parks, streets, and to crowds both large and small. We have gone into homes, industrial plants, and business places to present Christ in personal interviews, which has been a great and rewarding experience.

United Evangelistic Missions

We have conducted some United Evangelistic Missions. Others are now in process or being planned. In preparation for these and for other phases of our work, we have held Institutes with ministers and training conferences with visitation and other workers.

Our work in Mississippi, like some other sections, is for the most part in rural communities and small towns. During our Mission there, one new church was organized, 47 young people made definite commitments for some type of life service work in the home or foreign field, and 1,161 persons were received into the church on profession of faith and by transfer. We will have United Evangelistic Missions very soon in the Central West, Southwest, and Lexington Conferences. The latter must be worked by Districts because of the extensive territory it covers and because our work there is so scattered geographically.

Annual Conference Hours

Periods for special evangelistic emphasis and study are being provided in our Annual Conference sessions. This we believe will have a far-reaching effect in deepening the interest and creating a real concern for the salvation of people.

Our Schools of Ministerial Training

Beginning this summer, courses in evangelism will be offered in our Area Schools of Ministerial Training. It is our plan that every minister, both members of Annual Conferences and Accepted Supplies, shall have the opportunity to study and know all methods of evangelism and the procedure to assure the largest success.

The Washington Spiritual Life Mission

We were inspired as we participated in the Spiritual Life Mission in Washington, D. C., and will make use of the method to reactivate our inactive members and to make the active more active. This has been one of our emphases in organizing and lifting up the work of the Local Church Commission on Membership and Evangelism, following the legislation of the recent General Conference. More than one hundred members have been brought into active relations in one of our churches in Louisiana. At Paris, Tennessee, a church membership of 25 was increased to 135 over a six-month period. There have been many other similar evangelistic victories.

Mobile Unit

The New Orleans Area has provided a mobile unit which is being used to a great advantage in the Conferences. It is a real church on wheels, well equipped with an electric organ, public address system, machine for playing musical recordings, the Bible, two hundred *Methodist Hymnals*, and Audio-Visual Aid equipment. With this mobile unit the gospel is taken to the people in downtown industrial areas, parks, small towns, and in the open country. In this way many people are reached and brought into worship services who otherwise would not be. It is also a splendid means of advertising our Missions and other Christian activities.

Caravan

We have had a group of church leaders in the Texas Conference to go in a caravan from one district to another to hold one-day seminars in order to inform our laymen on the work of the four commissions of the local church. In this we placed emphasis on evangelism, calling attention to special days and times which offered unusual evangelistic opportunities, such as Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Aldersgate.

Our Follow-Up

An increased number of young people are matriculating in our educational institutions. They are interested in business, industry, and religion. In our Christian Student Missions we do our best to help develop Christian attitudes. Many of these young people are given places of cultivation and leadership; many are willing to go in urban and rural communities during vacation to give whatever service they can to others.

Our Follow-Up

We are trying to make good use of the Letter of Notification (Paragraph 119 of our new *Discipline*), because the shift in our population has caused a decrease in the membership of some local churches, especially in small towns and rural communities. On the other hand, our membership has increased in many cities and industrial centers. We have several new church organizations (three in one Texas district), and some of these are growing rapidly.

My Associate

On October 1, 1952, we added an associate worker in this department. He is W. D. Lester, who was the Executive Secretary of Christian Education for the Central West Conference. He has been a successful pastor and District Superintendent with a real evangelistic passion. He has begun wholeheartedly in this work. The people speak in high terms of praise for him and his work in the places to which he has gone during these months. We anticipate a successful year and an unusual harvest of souls as we work together with him and our Lord.

J. W. Golden, director of the Department of Negro Work, conducting a service from the mobile unit provided by the New Orleans Area. It is a modern, well-equipped "church on wheels."

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Cooperative Department of Youth Evangelism

HOWARD W. ELLIS, *Director*

It is a pleasure and privilege to present my report of activities and service for the seventh consecutive year as a member of the staff of the General Board of Evangelism of The Methodist Church. They have been years of opportunity and growth, personally, and have paralleled the expansion and development of an amazing and heart-warming evangelistic movement in this nation and in The Methodist Church.

In this eventful year, it has been my responsibility to work in two fields: radio-television and Christian Witness. Approximately six months have been served in each of these departments, so that this report includes my activities and responsibilities as director of the Department of Public Communications Evangelism and the newly-organized Cooperative Department of Youth Evangelism, which was voted at the organizational meeting, August 1, 1952.

Public Communications Evangelism

For the first six or eight months of 1952, I served as director of the Department of Public Communications Evangelism and director of The Upper Room Radio Parish. In this capacity I have been your staff representative on the Joint Staff of the Radio and Film Commission of The Methodist Church and the Board of Managers of the Central Department of Broadcasting and Films of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

I am glad to give this account of my stewardship in radio and television evangelism at the conclusion of three years of service in this field.

Report from San Francisco

A series of three transcribed newscasts by Walter Van Kirk presented the General Conference in preview, in progress, and in retrospect, April 25, May 2, and May 9.

These three 15-minute summaries of significant General Conference news were introduced by transcribed introductions by the Bishops in their respective areas.

A complete list of the 480 stations coast-to-coast was carried in *The Daily Advocate* and reported by hundreds of local correspondents. Methodist Information provided the budget for pressings. Mr. Van Kirk and a staff prepared weekly news of interest to the local areas to supplement the Van Kirk broadcasts. This series represented $25,000 in free time.

The 1952 Family Week Series

Six personalities were featured in the dramatic series "Brotherhood Begins at Home," written by Bev Dean.

1. Frank Laubach—"He Teaches the World to Read and Pray"
2. John R. Mott—"Citizen of the World"
3. Hunting Horse—"The Great Spirit's Horseman"
4. Roland Hayes—"A Voice that Belongs to the Ages"
5. Glenn Burton—"Family of the Year"
6. Mary T. Martin Sloop—"Mother of the Year"

The series was scheduled by 678 stations. Twenty-six others accepted prior Family Week programs for a total of 704 stations. Commercial time represented $105,600.

The 1952 Lenten Series

As an experiment, a package Lenten Series of six 15-minute programs for once a week broadcast during Lent and six programs for Holy Week was offered. A record 736 stations accepted the program. This was an all-time high for hymns from The Upper Room. The music series, representing $150,800 in free time, figured at $100 per hour standard commercial rates.

The 1952 Holiday Series

Two 30-minute dramatic-musical programs produced for broadcast on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day featured The Christians and the Chicago Temple Choir and the string quartette of the Chicago symphony orchestra. Titled "Let Us Give Thanks" and "Christmas Is a Holy Day," they were offered with the six "Christmas Carols" as the 1952 Holiday Series. The package was snapped up by a record breaking 959 stations, 176 of which carried only Christmas Carols. The saturation coverage of this series is all the more remarkable because it came in response to a single mailing. The commercial time represented here is valued at $211,450.

The 1953 Holy Week Series

Featuring Dr. Ralph W. Sockman as narrator, the 1953 series has been especially written for Holy Week by Dorothy Harper, collaborating with Vance Taylor as music director. Musical background on the program is provided by a string quartette from the Atlanta Symphony. The series has been produced in Atlanta at the Protestant Radio Center, which has collaborated during the year in the network tandem operation which has been in effect weekly, beginning September, 1951.

The Loan Library

Counting the 141 dramatic series placed and the 127 musical series re-issued, the loan library of The Upper Room has claimed $46,560 in public service time without any new productions or pressing costs. The radio-television industry has accepted The Upper Room Radio pattern of continuous re-issuing of programs year after year, which means that our loan library of radio transcriptions—which is the only one of its kind in radio—is one of the most valuable assets in religious radio.

$539,410 in Free Radio Time

Counting the Report from San Francisco, the industry has given The Methodist Church $539,410 in free public service time in 1952. This is an all time high.

Television Chapel

At the same time, we have not been unaware of the cyclops monster, TV. A prospectus and presentation, featuring Charles R. Goff and the Chicago Temple's Chapel in the Sky,

has been prepared by this Department for The Methodist Radio and Film Commission. It seems quite evident that with programs on film, television time will be as available as radio is to us now for the asking.

Radio and TV programming demands teamwork. Everyone has helped in achieving whatever success has attended our efforts to broadcast the glad tidings. My appreciation and thanks go to J. Manning Potts for his unwavering commendation and support, to Harry Denman for his dedication to reaching the unchurched by public communications, to Harry Spencer and Howard Tower and the RFC staff for their never-ceasing interest and understanding cooperation, to Harry L. Williams who began this ministry, to Ralph Stoody for making possible the General Conference broadcasts, to Harold L. Hermann whose promotional know-how has been invaluable, to George H. Jones and Gordon P. Baker for always finding space in *Shepherds,* and to Miss Ada McKinley for doing my secretarial work for me.

Christian Witness

At the organizational meeting, the job analysis for this new Department had not yet been formulated. Through consultation with the Youth Department of the Division of the Local Church of the Board of Education, the Department of College and University Religious Life of the Division of Educational Institutions, and the National Conference of Methodist Youth, this Department coordinates its activities and develops its program cooperatively. We work through a Joint Committee on Youth Evangelism and are represented on the disciplinary Joint Staff on Youth and Student work.

This Department has staff relationship on the Youth Department of the Division of the Local Church and is responsible for developing the new area of Christian Witness in the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Functions of This Department

The job analysis of responsibilities is as follows:

1. Act as liaison between the General Board of Evangelism and the General Board of Education in Youth Work. (Assisting in developing a program of youth evangelism based upon the principles and educational philosophy of both Boards.)
2. Assist in developing an effective program of evangelism through the Methodist Youth Fellowship.
3. Give guidance and direction to the evangelism phase of the quadrennial emphasis on youth work.
4. Be responsible for the Commission on Christian Witness.
5. Give direction and leadership to spiritual life retreats and other special training activities.
6. Develop resource materials for youth evangelism in the local church. Provide a monthly article in *Roundtable.*
7. Give guidance to evangelism emphasis in Methodist Youth Caravan; summer camps, institutes, and assemblies; youth leadership workshops, mid-year institutes, and related activities.
8. Develop leaders' guides and resource materials for training adult workers with youth and youth leaders in evangelism among youth.
9. Take care of correspondence relating to evangelism among youth.
10. Give resource guidance in evangelism for Curriculum Committee II.
11. Give direction to Youth Christian Witness Missions.
12. Discover and train leadership for evangelistic Missions.

The Quadrennial Emphasis on Youth Work

The 1952 General Conference called for a quadrennial emphasis on Youth Work. The thrust of the youth emphasis is to arouse the Church to help all youth discover the will of God and live by it.

The emphasis is on new enthusiasm and effort for the ongoing program of The Methodist Youth Fellowship—to help all youth discover the will of God and live by it. The core of the Youth Emphasis program seeks to:

a. Strengthen faith.
b. Win youth to Christ.
c. Improve the MYF.

Evangelism in the Youth Emphasis

Methodist youth are participating in the World Mission of Evangelism during 1953. Local churches involved in the United Evangelistic Missions and the Spiritual Life Missions are giving special emphasis to the participation of youth. The emphasis on winning youth to Christ is fourfold:

1. Find the unchurched youth.
2. Enroll youth in The Methodist Youth Fellowship.
3. Lead them to commitment.
4. Help them to witness.

In order to carry the full impact of the new Christian Witness emphasis, which is a part of the new five-commission plan of the United Christian Youth Movement, the term "Christian Witness Missions" has been adopted as the name that will apply to any training or service agency in evangelism held for youth on any level. The movement is operating through the following channels:

Local Church Christian Witness Missions—week-long endeavors for youth.

Week-End Witness Workshops—known as Work Camps of Evangelism or Schools of Evangelism for youth. These serve and train youth throughout the summer.

National Christian Witness Missions—for student MSM presidents and MYF presidents, and national work camp projects for theological students.

Week-End Witness Missions as integral parts of Spiritual Life Missions, United Evangelistic Missions, and Community Missions.

Campus Christian Witness Missions. Pilot projects have been planned this year for Cincinnati University and West Virginia Wesleyan.

Through the local chairman of Christian witness in The Methodist Youth Fellowship and in The Methodist Student Movement, this movement has now a person through whom the good news may become flesh.

Through articles in *Concern,* including special editions on the Emphasis, articles in *Roundtable, Workers With Youth, Kit, The Pastor, The Advocate, Shepherds,* and *Motive,* and through correspondence, literature, and field service, this Department seeks to utilize every channel to undergird this emphasis in the youth work of the Church.

The basic guide to youth work in the local church, *Handbook,* is being rewritten with evangelism in the central place in the area of Christian Witness. Related to the emphasis on Christian Witness is evangelism, churchmanship, stewardship, and Christian vocations.

These months have been months of establishing new relationships, initiating cooperative plans, and integrating the youth program of the Church into the World Mission of Evangelism.

Work Camps of Evangelism, 1952

The staff responsibility of the Work Camps of Evangelism for youth has been carried by G. Ernest Thomas of our staff. Responsibility for the 1952 projects centered in the National Conference of Methodist Youth, with George Harper especially entrusted with them.

The entire staff has given splendid cooperation in undergirding this movement with field service from the very beginning.

1. Colorado Springs, Colorado, July 14-21
   Al Scarffe, director. Eugene Golay, guest leader. Twenty-three work campers carried their biggest load in making 2,752 interviews in 1,628 homes, in visiting 70 prospects. Eight decisions were made and two baptisms arranged. Four churches participated.
2. Lake Huron, Michigan, June 29-July 5
   Lyle Loomis, director. Verner S. Mumbulo, motives; Jewell M. Smoot, methods. Twenty-four work campers made 2,168 calls on 4,253 persons for 458 prospects. Two days of visitation evangelism totaled 121 interviews, 28 first commitments, 19 transfers. Six churches participated.
3. Pasadena, California, July 14-23
   Richard V. Kencall, director. George Harper, guest leader. Thirty-three new Methodist prospect homes in 207 evangelistic interviews. 56 decisions were secured.

Indiana work-campers participate in a community survey.

4. Terre Haute, Indiana, July 20-27
   Elmer L. Harvey, director. Gordon Pratt Baker, guest leader. Survey of newer communities, worship services held in Home for the Aged, street corner and city jail, evangelistic calling, report meetings in Sunday Schools and morning worship services. Three Indiana Conferences participated.
5. Wichita, Kansas, July 21-28
   George W. Richards, director. Howard Ellis, guest leader. Thirty-six participants made 2,201 survey calls, 3,990 interviews, found 494 Methodist families. In visitation evangelism, 575 interviews, 20 professions of faith, 23 transfers, 43 total commitments. Eight churches, including two new projects, were served.
6. Birmingham, Alabama, August 3-9
   Nina Reeves, director. Eugene Golay, guest leader. Program included preaching and visitation evangelism in local churches. The second consecutive year for North Alabama.
7. Owensboro, Kentucky, August 25-September 1
   Fred Phisterer, director. Leroy Walker, guest director. A combination of preaching and visitation in local churches of Owensboro. Four churches participating.
8. Montgomery, Alabama, August 4-9
   Marvin Warwick, director. Paul Grimes, guest director. This is the fourth consecutive year for this Alabama Youth Work Camp and is one of the largest and most successful. *Capitol Heights:* 25 contacts made; two decisions on profession of faith, and three transfers. *Frazier Memorial:* 48 contacts; one decision on profession of faith, nine transfers. *Burge Memorial:* 28 homes, or total of 101 persons surveyed; 28 prospects found. During visitation, two were secured on profession of faith, and four by transfer.
9. Booneville, Mississippi, August 18-24
   L. P. Jumper, director. Clifford Zirkel, guest leader. Twenty-five participants, 214 survey calls, 47 Methodist prospects for new church, 385 not in Sunday School, 204 attending special services, 113 evangelistic calls, 23 decisions, 7 transfers, 23 baptisms.

Youth holding a street meeting.

10. Kingsport, Tennessee, August 18-25
    Clyde F. Watkins, director. Leslie Ross and Howard Ellis, guest leaders. Ralph Mohney, leader in evangelistic services for 18 churches in sub-district. Six host churches, 25 youth from district conference, 28 local youth; 1,554 homes surveyed, 91 homes surveyed, no one in; 248 calls made. Visitation: 122 people interviewed, 12 professions of faith, 13 transfers of church membership.
11. Pere Marquette State Park, August 25-30
    William Hahs, director. This was the second year for a

youth evangelism project in the Southern Illinois Conference.

12. Dwight, Illinois, August 25-30
Eugene Darling, director. Virgil Chilcote, guest leader. A project of the Illinois, Rock River and Wisconsin Conferences. Scheduled for Wisconsin in 1953.

13. Lake Louise, Michigan, August 24-September 1
Howard A. Layman, director. Leslie Ross, guest leader. Forty-six youth participated, 1,575 calls made, 1,387 in special services, 384 prospects, 76 commitments, 4 transfers, 7 participating churches.

14. Memphis, Tennessee, August 24-31
J. C. Gilbert, director. Eugene Golay, guest leader. Thirty-two youth participants, 2,609 calls, 5,289 interviews, 860 prospects, 37 commitments, 11 on profession of faith.

15. Muscatine, Iowa, August 17-23
Charles Mason, director. Jesse H. Roberts, guest leader. A project of the Des Moines Area. Thirty-four participants, nine on staff, 1,174 calls. Methodist families visited 153 prospects, 13 commitments, 3 churches participated.

16. Tampa, Florida, September 8-15
W. L. Joyner, director. George Harper and Harry Denman, guest leaders. This is the fourth consecutive MYF evangelism project for Florida. Jail service, a special street service, and a youth rally were included in the week's activities.

17. Moses Lake, Washington
A. C. Wischmerier, director. George Harper, guest leader. A new church was organized in a funeral home. Young people advertised outside the church: "You will be here someday, why not Sunday?"

Program Highlights

Colorado Springs—Sunday evening service at Acacia Park—two radio interviews. Four young persons made decisions for full time Christian service. Colorado and Wyoming conferences combined forces.

Pasadena—The Spiritual Life Emphasis—"Disciplines of the Christian Life" was given daily emphasis. Youth-to-youth evangelism was given priority. Prayer tells an important part of group life. Meetings in jails and old peoples' homes.

Wichita—A city with 13,000 Methodists and an equal number outside the Church. The emphasis here was on visitation for decisions.

Booneville—Five of the most rural churches of Mississippi were served by the choice young people of the Conference. A survey for a new church was made in East Booneville. One MYF was organized.

Kingsport—A newly built church, just being finished, was given the benefit of the findings of a complete survey.

Tampa—A Conference-wide plan for following through with District Youth Missions is being developed along the lines of *Here's How*.

Quotes and Comments

"This week has given me a new feeling of self confidence to spread the good news. It has also thrown a real light on religion and life."—*Colorado young person.*

"I don't believe that there is an evangelist in the United States who could have done for our church and community what has been done this week."—*Layman in Mississippi.*

"We went out to Bill and Ella Male's church today and surveyed all around their territory. Most of the houses were farm houses, and it seemed like everyone had a big dog. Gee! it was fun!"—*Jill Johnston, Kalamazoo, Michigan.*

"I've just returned from one of the best MYF meetings I've ever attended. We spent most of last week contacting the kids and publicizing the first meeting. We had about 45 kids there tonight, and I'll bet we will have twice that many next week. I feel that, through Him, this will be one of the greatest years the MYF at First Church has ever known!"—*Polly Allen, Kalamazoo.*

Asia 3's Training

On the invitation of Mel O. Williams, Personnel Secretary of the Board of Missions, your director spent a week in Hartford Seminary in July in helping train the fifty A-3 missionary personnel in evangelism. The Board of Evangelism of the New York East Conference sponsored the field work in survey and visitation evangelism in seven churches of Greater Hartford. Students reported that the experience was one of the highlights of the six week's work. The Workshop will be repeated in 1953.

1953 — Regional and Conference Training Centers — 1953

North Central	
Chicago	June 22-July 24. Two hours credit. A joint project of the Board of Evangelism and the Methodist Student Movement.
Onstead, Michigan	July 5-12
Southern Illinois	To be announced
Minnesota	To be announced
Wisconsin	August 24-30
Michigan	August 30-September 7
Northeastern	
Pennsylvania	June 19-21
New England	June 28-July 6
Delaware	July 27-August 3
South Central	
Louisiana	June 5-13
New Orleans	To be announced
Northwest Texas	July 12-17
Texas	To be announced
Dallas-Fort Worth	July 27-August 3
Kansas	July 20-29
Central Kansas	July 20-27
Southeastern	
Kentucky	To be announced
North Carolina	July 27-August 1
Florida	July 13-19
North Alabama	August 2-8
Alabama	To be announced
Tennessee	August 3-10
North Mississippi	August 15-24
Memphis	August 16-22
Western	
Wyoming-Colorado	June 21-27
Pacific Northwest	To be announced
California-Arizona	July 27-August 5
California-Nevada	To be announced

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Department of Business

DANIEL E. JACKSON, *Treasurer*

To Members of the General Board of Evangelism of The Methodist Church:

Dear Friends:

I am very happy to welcome you to this meeting of our Board in Nashville, and especially am I happy to welcome you to our new building. I wish to express my gratitude to the Board, the Executive Committee, the Local Building Committee, and to all who have had a part in making it possible for us to occupy this fine new building.

We moved out of the Medical Arts Building in November, 1946. Because building restrictions at that time made it impossible to start the construction of a new building, we moved the Business Department into the old residence at 1908 Grand Avenue, which we had purchased to get this splendid site for our new building. We purchased an old residence at 1022 18th Avenue, South, to house the other departments of the Board, and leased a warehouse at 1101 Laurel Street for our Shipping Department. As the Board continued to grow it was necessary in October, 1949, to rent an additional residence at 2001 Broadway and also some additional storage space in November, 1951, for our Shipping Department.

Just prior to moving into the new building, we were paying a total rental of $10,500.00 a year for the space that we were using, in addition to the 18th Avenue property which was owned by the Board. When the time came for us to tear down our building at 1908 Grand Avenue so we could build this splendid edifice, we were fortunate in being able to lease a building at 1508 McGavock Street at $325.00 per month.

On October 1, 1952, we moved the Shipping Department into the new building. On October 25, 1952, we moved the Accounting Department, Filing Department, and Cashier's Office into the new building. On December 12 and 13, 1952, we completed the moving of all departments into the new building, thus putting all of us under one roof once more.

It gives me pleasure to report to you that the property at 1022 18th Avenue, South, has been sold for $15,000 cash. The property which we had leased for the Shipping Room at a rental of $400.00 per month was sub-leased for the unexpired time (four years and three months) and also the property at 1508 McGavock Street has been sub-leased for the unexpired term (eighteen months). Both of these properties were sub-leased without any loss of time or rental. The lease on the other two properties (2001 Broad Street, at $85.00 per month, and the storage space at Sixth Avenue, South, for $65.00 a month) have expired.

In other words, all departments occupied the new building as of December 15, 1952, and all of our surplus property has been disposed of without any loss of rental.

With the continued growth of the staff and all departments of the Board, it was found necessary to add an assistant to the Business Department. I am happy to welcome Harold S. Rogers, a fine Christian layman, as my co-worker in this department. Through the assistance of Mr. Rogers, we will be able to furnish better service to all Departments of the Board and to the entire Church.

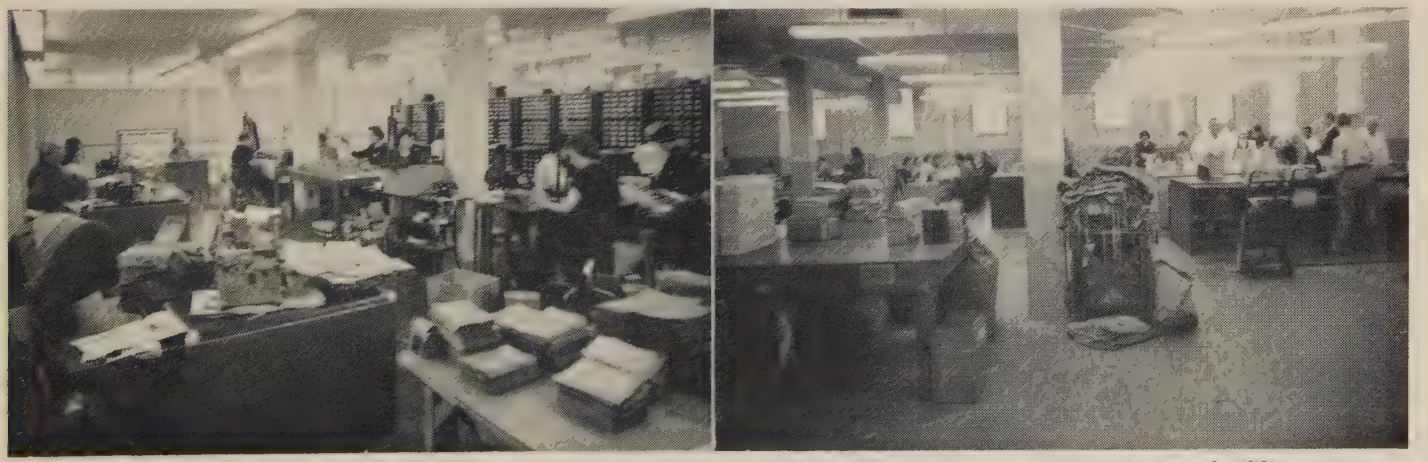
To all of the faithful employees of our Board, and to all of the heads of the various branches of our Business Department (Miss Katherine Campbell, Upper Room cashier; Mrs. T. C. Lackey, Accounting and Filing; Miss Mildred Sanders, Tidings Literature Office; Mrs. M. A. Karl, Yearly Subscriptions; Mr. Burk, Shipping Department, and Miss Mary Smith, Central Business Office) I extend my hearty appreciation.

You will find on the following pages a complete audit of all departments of the Board for the year ending May 31, 1952. Each report includes a balance sheet showing assets and liabilities as of the close of the last fiscal year and also operating reports for the same period.

We are also submitting a detailed budget report in mimeographed form covering the first nine months (June through February) of the current fiscal year and also a proposed budget for the year 1953-54. This report is being submitted to the Finance Committee for study and recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

D. E. JACKSON, *Treasurer*



The Upper Room Subscription Department (left) and the Shipping Department (right) in the new building.

OSBORN AND PAGE
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
AMERICAN TRUST BUILDING
NASHVILLE 3, TENNESSEE

HILARY H. OSBORN, C. P. A.
FRED G. PAGE, C. P. A.
ROBERT ADAIR, C. P. A.
EUGENE R. MULLINS, C. P. A

AUDITS SYSTEMS
TAX SERVICE

We have examined the accounts of

THE GENERAL BOARD OF EVANGELISM OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

THE UPPER ROOM (An Agency of the General Board) and

TIDINGS (An Agency of the General Board)

for the year ended May 31, 1952.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion the respective Balance Sheets and Statements of Operations of The General Board of Evangelism of the Methodist Church, The Upper Room, and Tidings, present fairly the financial conditions at May 31, 1952, and the results of their operations for the year ended that date in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied.

Osborn and Page
Certified Public Accountants

Nashville, Tennessee
June twenty-six
1-9-5-2

General Board of Evangelism of the Methodist Church

Balance Sheet — May 31, 1952

ASSETS

Current Assets:		
Cash—Third National Bank	$ 7,837.96	
Accounts Receivable—Building and Investment Fund	20,000.00	
Total Current Assets		$27,837.96
Other Assets:		
Deposits—American Airlines	$ 425.00	
Deposits—Staff Travel	1,400.00	
Total Other Assets		1,825.00
Restricted Assets:		
Cash—Third National Bank		25,000.00
Fixed Assets:		
Furniture and Fixtures	$12,864.62	
Less—Reserve for Depreciation	3,619.61	
Net Value Fixed Assets		9,245.01
Deferred Charges:		
Consumable Supplies	$ 615.27	
Prepaid Insurance	866.04	
Total Deferred Charges		1,481.31
		$65,389.28

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable—Other Departments		$ 108.64
Funded Reserve:		
Reserve for United Evangelistic Missions		25,000.00
Surplus		40,280.64
		$65,389.28

General Board of Evangelism of the Methodist Church

Statement of Operations

Year Ended May 31, 1952

Income		
World Service		$91,904.30
Layman's Trust Fund		15,000.00
United Evangelistic Missions		55,126.14
Spiritual Life Missions		1,538.28
Foundation for Evangelism		10,000.00
Special Gifts		9,677.42
Total Income		$183,246.14
Expenses		
Administrative		
Executive Secretary's Salary	$ 5,272.00	
Executive Secretary's Travel	6,250.55*	
Office Help	4,290.00	
Stationery and Postage	933.82	
Office Supplies	105.01	
Telephone and Telegraph	811.43	
Special Speakers—Honorarium and Travel	278.89	
Miscellaneous	1,157.10	$19,098.80
*Total Travel	$ 8,453.38	
Less—Credit	2,202.83	
	$ 6,250.55	
General Items		
Office Rent	$ 2,500.00	
Central Business Office	5,843.63	
Interboard Commission on Christian Vocations	580.00	
National Conference of Methodist Youth	500.00	
Transportation Bureau	2,085.48	
Audit	391.13	
Books and Special Printing	1,485.20	
Dr. Guy H. Black—Pension	196.00	
Radio and Film Commission—The Methodist Church	300.00	
National Evangelistic Conference—One-half	5,026.31	
Group Life, Hospital, Health and Accident Insurance	535.59	
Pensions and Social Security	4,823.26	24,266.60
Department of United Evangelistic Missions and Methods		
Associate Secretary's Salary and Rent	$ 7,500.00	
Associate Secretary's Travel	2,961.33	
Stenographer	1,997.72	
Promotion and Postage	3,409.63	
Five Men at $6,000.00 each—Salary and Rent	28,128.57	
Five Men at $2,000.00 each– Travel	8,596.45*	
Stenographers—Two Additional	2,326.84	
Stationery and Supplies	515.12	
Telephone and Telegraph	621.09	
Department of Radio and Film Evangelism—One-third	4,210.92	
Miscellaneous	128.72	60,426.39
*Total Travel	$ 8,863.31	
Less—Credit	266.86	
	$ 8,596.45	

Spiritual Life Evangelism			
Associate Secretary's Salary and Rent		$ 7,500.00	
Associate Secretary's Travel		5,032.17*	
Stenographer		990.00	
Promotion and Postage		666.16	
Stationery and Supplies		74.55	
Telephone and Telegraph		75.00	
Miscellaneous		55.04	
Youth Camps		724.58	15,117.50
*Total Travel	$ 5,672.87		
Less—Credit	640.70		
	$ 5,032.17		
Department of Negro Work			
Associate Secretary's Salary and Rent		$ 7,200.00	
Associate Secretary's Travel		2,303.71	
Stenographer		1,588.00	
Promotion and Postage		1,511.29	
Office Rent—Memphis Office		244.00	
Stationery and Supplies		115.93	
Telephone and Telegraph		382.18	
Miscellaneous		5.00	13,350.11
Cultivation, Promotion and Specials			
Associate Secretary's Salary and Rent		$ 7,200.00	
Associate Secretary's Travel		2,406.86	
Stenographer		1,843.00	
Promotion and Postage		2,586.01	
Stationery and Supplies		221.14	
Telephone and Telegraph		164.03	
Miscellaneous		83.58	14,504.62
Department of Local Church Evangelism			
Associate Secretary's Salary and Rent		$ 7,200.00	
Associate Secretary's Travel		2,030.84*	
Stenographer		990.00	
Promotion and Postage		247.98	
Stationery and Supplies		75.06	
Telephone and Telegraph		65.10	
Miscellaneous		55.05	10,664.03
*Total Travel	$ 2,663.53		
Less—Credit	632.69		
	$ 2,030.84		
Sundry			
Depreciation			1,146.84
Total Expenses			$158,574.89
Excess of Income over Expenditures			$24,671.25

The Upper Room Operating Fund

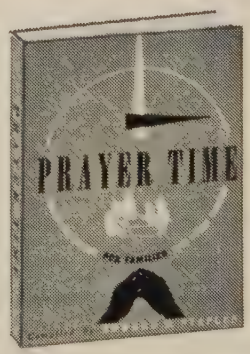
Balance Sheet — May 31, 1952

ASSETS

Current Assets:			
Cash in Banks		$ 3,110.89	
Cash on Hand		1,405.26	
Accounts Receivable	$100,299.23		
Less—Reserve for Doubtful Accounts	4,519.94	95,779.29	
Accounts Receivable—Other Departments		63.10	
Merchandise Inventory		33,174.95	
Total Current Assets			$133,533.49
Fixed Assets:			
Furniture and Fixtures		$70,654.49	
Radio Equipment		1,336.08	
		$71,990.57	
Less—Reserve for Depreciation		48,982.34	
Total Fixed Assets (Net)			23,008.23
Deferred Charges:			
Supplies			17,492.06
			$174,033.78

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Deferred Income:			
Unearned Subscriptions		$75,866.73	
Unused Fellowship Collections		8,602.59	
Total Deferred Income			$84,469.32
Other Liabilities:			
Upper Room Building and Investment Fund			89,564.46
			$174,033.78



J. Manning Potts, editor of *The Upper Room*, gives a copy of *Prayer Time* to Bishop Hazen G. Werner. Edward D. Staples, compiler of the book, looks on.

The Upper Room Operating Fund

Statement of Operations

Year Ended May 31, 1952

Income			
Sales			
The Upper Room		$875,809.01	
Less—Refunds and Returns		7,218.18	
Total Net Sales			$868,590.83
Expenses			
Editorial Department			
Editor's Salary and Rent		$ 9,000.00	
Editor's Travel		4,802.05*	
Editorial Associates' Salaries—Three		10,904.22	
Editorial Associates' Travel		396.58	
Secretaries		4,500.00	
Translators		1,320.00	
Authors		4,331.00	
Photography		822.82	36,076.67
*Total Travel	$ 5,120.50		
Less—Credit	318.45		
	$ 4,802.05		
Merchandise Printing			
English Edition—Regular		$251,856.96	
English Edition—Pocket		40,332.78	
Spanish Edition		7,102.68	
Braille Edition		2,466.57	
Devotional Literature		57,034.13	
Pictures for Covers		1,050.20	359,843.32
Merchandise for Sale			
Literature Racks		$ 3,688.86	
Envelopes		6,131.82	
Cover Cases		155.90	
Literature for Resale		352.00	10,328.58
Fellowship of The Upper Room			
Salaries		$ 4,633.68	
Postage		1,010.47	
Stationery and Supplies		916.51	
Foreign Editions		8,651.83	15,212.49
Public Relations			
Director's Salary		$ 6,600.00	
Director's Travel		1,465.92	
Secretary		2,100.00	
Office Assistants		3,660.60	
Telephone and Telegraph		37.42	
Postage		596.93	
Stationery and Supplies		556.63	
Shepherds Advertising		7,200.00	
Periodical Advertising		29,002.75	
Direct Mail		35,823.64	
Sales Helps		3,037.44	
Printing Catalogues and Brochures		267.84	
Experimental Promotion		3,257.50	93,606.67

Office			
Salaries			
Accounting Department	$41,315.84		
Cashier's Office	12,945.02		
Filing Department	15,426.12		
Yearly Subscription Department	21,214.96		
Extra Help	7,756.36		
Supplies	7,026.46		
Exchange	216.29		
Telephone and Telegraph	281.44	106,182.49	
Shipping Department			
Salaries	$27,659.87		
Extra Help—Mailing	15,737.98		
Supplies	10,694.44		
Trucking	1,061.82	55,154.11	
Postage and Express			
Mailing Permit	$19,501.80		
Postage Meter	21,416.64		
Postage General	3,483.28		
Postage and Express Due	1,111.16	45,512.88	
General Items (Miscellaneous)			
Central Business Office	$28,258.73		
Rent—Office and Shipping	14,000.00		
Radio and Films	22,697.83		
National Evangelistic Conference—one-half	5,026.32		
Department of Radio and Film Evangelism—one-third	4,210.92		
Group Life, Hospital, Health and Accident Insurance	4,153.32		
Pensions and Social Security	5,177.58		
Mrs. Grover C. Emmons	1,600.00		
Audit	681.65		
Miscellaneous	5,102.12	90,908.47	
Total Expenses			$812,825.68
			$55,765.15
Other Income			
Miscellaneous			23.40
			$55,788.55
Other Deductions			
Depreciation		$ 7,075.55	
Bad Debt Expense		2,569.71	
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets		21.50	
Total Other Deductions			9,666.76
Excess of Income over Expenditures			$46,121.79

The Upper Room Building and Investment Fund

Balance Sheet — May 31, 1952

ASSETS

Current Assets				
Cash—Third National Bank			$ 13,916.17	
Account Receivable—General Board of Evangelism			.65	
Total Current Assets				$ 13,916.82
Upper Room Operating Fund				89,564.46
Fixed Assets				
	Cost	*Reserve*	*Net Value*	
Land and Buildings:				
Medical Arts Building	$225,827.35	$ 30,380.62	$195,446.73	
1022 Eighteenth Avenue, South	22,690.95	9,076.39	13,614.56	
Building Equipment	1,934.81	1,571.08	363.73	
Furniture and Fixtures	119.68	89.77	29.91	
Land (for Home Office Building)	62,151.24	.....	62,151.24	
Home Office Building (under construction)	451,571.27	.....	451,571.27	
Total	$764,295.30	$ 41,117.86		
Total Fixed Assets (Net)				723,177.44
Deferred Charges				
Supply Inventory			56.42	
Total Deferred Charges				56.42
				$826,715.14

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

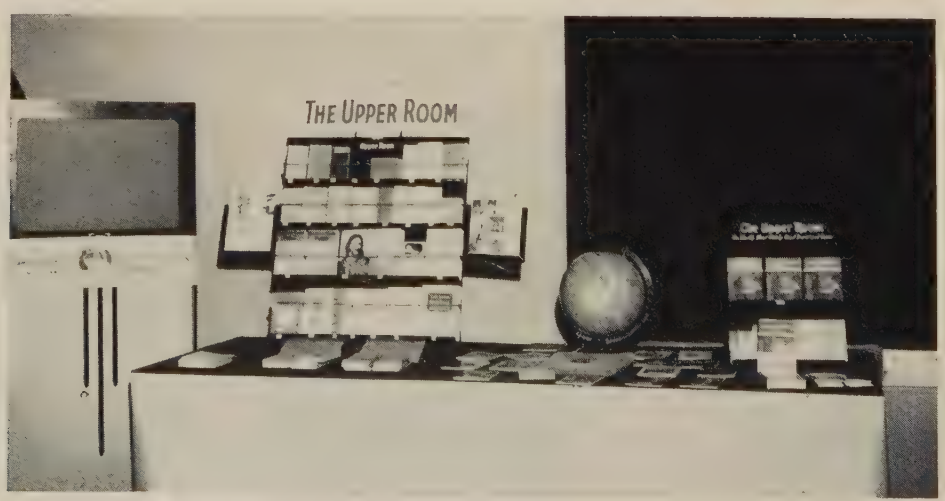
Current Liabilities			
Account Payable—General Board of Evangelism		$ 20,000.00	
Account Payable—Tidings		10,000.00	
Note Payable—Third National Bank		75,000.00	
Accrued Interest Payable		25.00	
Total Current Liabilities			105,025.00
Surplus Reserves			
General Reserve Fund	$300,000.00		
Chapel Fund	13,929.97		
Total Surplus Reserves			313,929.97
Surplus			407,760.17
			$826,715.14

The Upper Room Building and Investment Fund

Statement of Operations

Year Ended May 31, 1952

Income			
Rent			
General Shoe Corporation	$ 20,000.04		
Less—Commission	1,000.00		
	$ 19,000.04		
Upper Room	14,000.00		
General Board of Evangelism	2,500.00		
Tidings	3,500.00		
Central Business Office	1,000.00	$ 40,000.04	
Chapel Fund		13,929.97	
Interest		257.54	
Miscellaneous		30.00	
Total Income			$ 54,217.55
Operating Expenses			
Salaries		$ 4,803.50	
Heat, Light and Water		2,778.02	
Repairs and Improvements		508.29	
Supplies		938.86	
Group Life, Hospital, Health and Accident Insurance		172.71	
Pensions and Social Security		41.50	
Rent			
1101 Laurel Street—Shipping Department	$ 5,150.00		
1508 McGavock Street	3,900.00		
2001 Broadway	1,020.00	$ 10,070.00	
Central Business Office		697.75	
Audit		96.50	
Miscellaneous		208.35	
Cost of Redeeming U. S. Bonds		2,025.00	
Depreciation		5,337.25	
Total Operating Expenses			27,677.73
Net Surplus for Year			$ 26,539.82



Tidings-Department of Evangelistic Literature

Balance Sheet — May 31, 1952

ASSETS

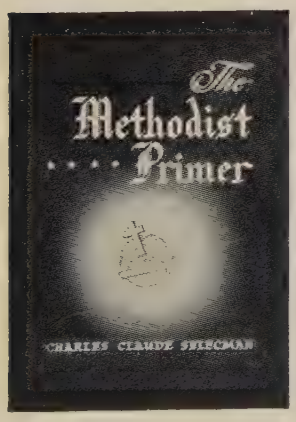
Current Assets			
Cash		$ 516.24	
Accounts Receivable—Regular		7,517.53	
Accounts Receivable—Missions		2,619.38	
Accounts Receivable—General Board		44.89	
Loan Receivable—Building Fund		10,000.00	
Inventories:			
Tidings—Leaflets	$ 31,406.22		
Charts and Films	8,082.73		
Home Visitation	8,497.63		
Radio Records	141.79	48,128.37	
Total Current Assets			$ 68,826.41

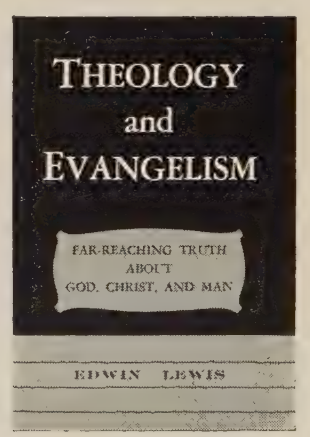
Fixed Assets	*Cost*	*Depreciation*	*Net Value*	
Furniture and Fixtures	$ 9,198.77	$ 2,966.80	$ 6,231.97	
Visual Aid Equipment	495.55	445.99	49.56	
Totals	$ 9,694.32	$ 3,412.79		
Net Value Fixed Assets				6,281.53

Deferred Charges		
Mailing Supplies	$ 2,057.06	
Lake Junaluska Camp Meeting	746.07	
Total Deferred Charges		2,803.13
		$ 77,911.07

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Deferred Income		
Unearned Subscriptions	$	417.15
Surplus		77,493.92
	$	77,911.07





Tidings-Department of Evangelistic Literature

Statement of Operations

Year Ended May 31, 1952

Income			
Sales			
Tidings—Leaflets		$132,032.25	
Shepherds—Monthly		928.25	
United Evangelistic Missions		39,989.29	
Charts and Films		55,857.80	
See-You-in-Church Sunday		22,602.50	
Tract-of-the-Month Club		29,120.46	$280,530.55
Promotional Income from Other Departments			7,200.00
Miscellaneous Income			259.15
Total Operating Income			$287,989.70
Expenses			
Editorial Department			
Editor's Salary and Rent		$ 7,500.00	
Editor's Travel		2,497.22*	
Editorial Assistants—Two		9,100.00	
Stenographers—Two		4,050.00	
Authors		1,594.75	24,741.97
*Total Travel	$ 2,522.22		
Less—Credit	25.00		
	$ 2,497.22		
Printing Costs			
Shepherds		$ 41,284.52	
Literature		42,628.80	
Charts and Films		15,298.58	
See-You-in-Church Sunday		9,196.27	
United Evangelistic Missions		25,203.63	
Tract-of-the-Month Club		16,634.04	150,245.84
Office Expense			
Salaries		$ 10,397.44	
Stationery and Supplies		1,228.45	
Postage		1,609.08	
Telephone and Telegraph		195.74	13,430.71
Shipping Department			
Salaries		$ 5,667.50	
Extra Help		3,205.78	
Supplies		4,570.24	
Trucking		139.88	
Postage—Shepherds		11,588.02	
Postage—Literature		19,401.11	44,572.53
Promotional			
Director's Salary		$ 4,200.00	
Printing—Catalogues, Brochures, Newsletters, etc.		8,665.44	
Periodical Advertising		1,035.21	
Samples		1,383.26	
Postage and Supplies		883.63	
Miscellaneous		46.72	
Travel		187.13	16,401.39

General Items			
Central Business Office	$ 8,809.05		
Rent, Office and Shipping	3,500.00		
Group Life, Hospital, Health and Accident Insurance	637.31		
Pensions and Social Security	1,746.17		
Department of Radio and Film Evangelism—One-third	4,210.91		
Audit	263.65		
Miscellaneous	861.67		
Depreciation	1,004.19		
Bad Debts	2,403.35	23,436.30	
Total Expenses			$272,828.74
Excess of Income over Expenditures for Year			$ 15,160.96

Foundation for Evangelism

Balance Sheet — May 31, 1952

Cash Receipts and Disbursements

ASSETS

Cash—Third National Bank, Nashville, Tennessee	$ 8,395.85

LIABILITIES

Fund Balance	$ 8,395.85

Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Year Ended May 31, 1952

Balance, June 1, 1951		$14,195.85
Receipts from Gifts		4,200.00
Total Available		$18,395.85
Disbursements to General Board of Evangelism		10,000.00
Balance May 31, 1952		$ 8,395.85

QUADRENNIAL PROGRAM OF EVANGELISM

ADOPTED BY THE 1952 GENERAL CONFERENCE

For the Local Church

I. A. Every local church participating in the World Wide Mission of Evangelism:

1. Through intensive evangelistic preparation from World Wide Communion Sunday, October 5, 1952, to Watch Night Service December 31, 1952.
2. Cooperation during 1953 in the year of world wide evangelism, with one of the high points of emphasis being Pentecost Sunday, May 24, which in the year 1953 is also Aldersgate Sunday.

B. Every local church implementing its regular program throughout the quadrennium as follows:

1. A Spiritual Life Mission in every local church, annually, to activate the inactive and to deepen the spiritual life of all members.
2. A systematic visitation of all members in the local church.
3. A prayer group in every local church, and the cultivation of a prayer movement.
4. Family worship in every home, including grace at meals.
5. Making and keeping an up-to-date prospect and constituency roll.
6. In each local church a group organized for regular and systematic Lay Visitation Evangelism, with every member of the local church a "witness" and personal worker.
7. Every new member trained in church membership and the Christian life.
8. Every member taking his place for Christ in the community life and activities.
9. Every local church cooperating with District or City Board of Missions in organizing new churches and reclaiming abandoned churches.

For the District

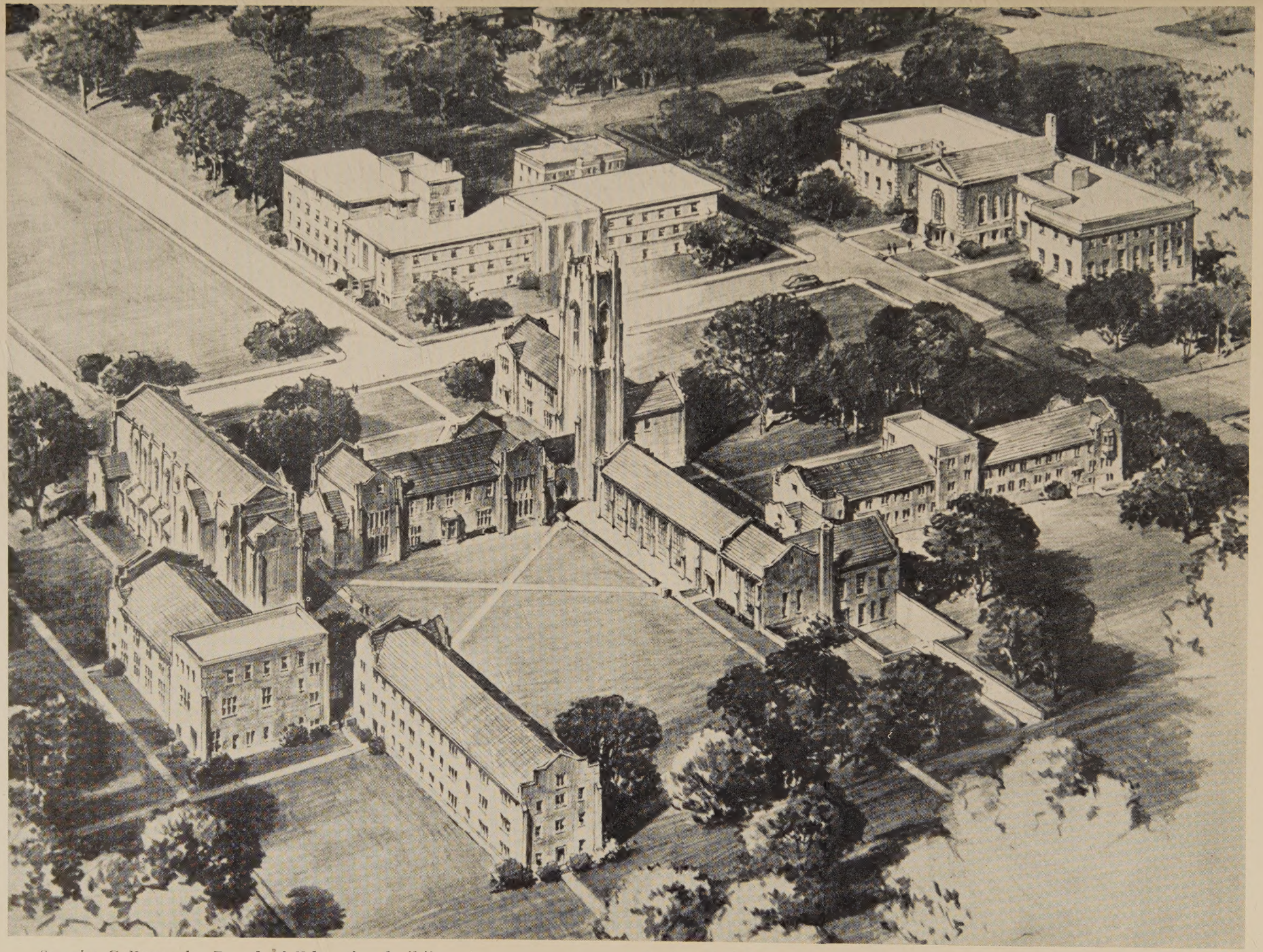
II. Every District cooperating through:

1. A United Evangelistic Mission conducted on a District or Inter-District level.
2. A Spiritual Life Mission for preachers and laymen in every District.

For the Conference

III. Every Conference cooperating through:

1. Seeking to secure at least a ten per cent net gain in membership during the quadrennium.
2. Conducting annually, on a Conference or Area basis, a Youth Work Camp in evangelism, in cooperation with the Board of Education.
3. Seeking to build up the spiritual tone of the Annual Conference session.
4. Encouraging the use of every helpful method of evangelism and making full use of such techniques as radio, television, and audio vision, that, in the spirit of St. Paul, we may be all things to all men if by any means we may win some.



Scarritt College, the Board of Education building (upper center), and the Board of Evangelism building (upper right) comprise a Methodist center. By Tim Harden, courtesy Scarritt College.